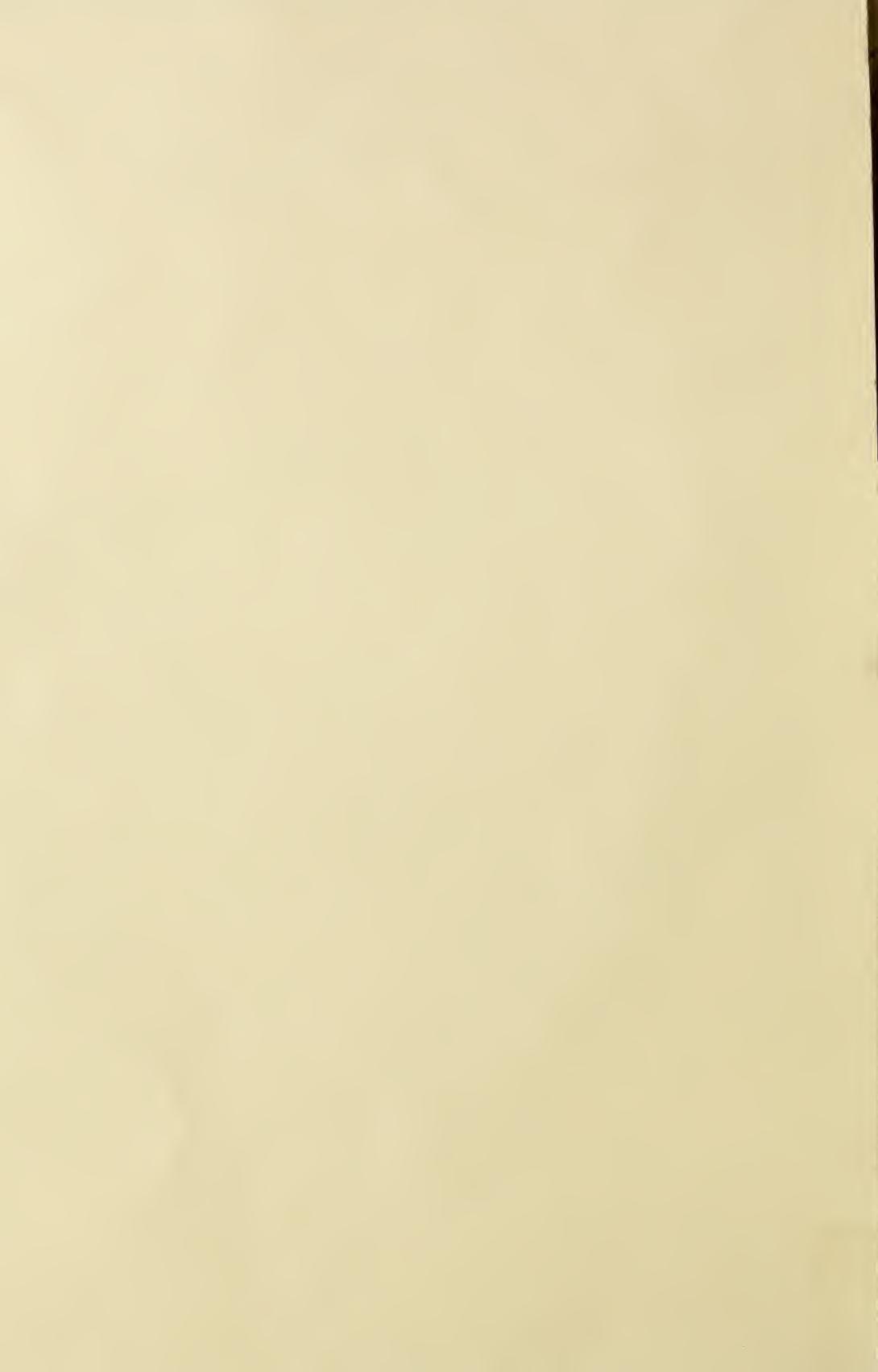


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# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

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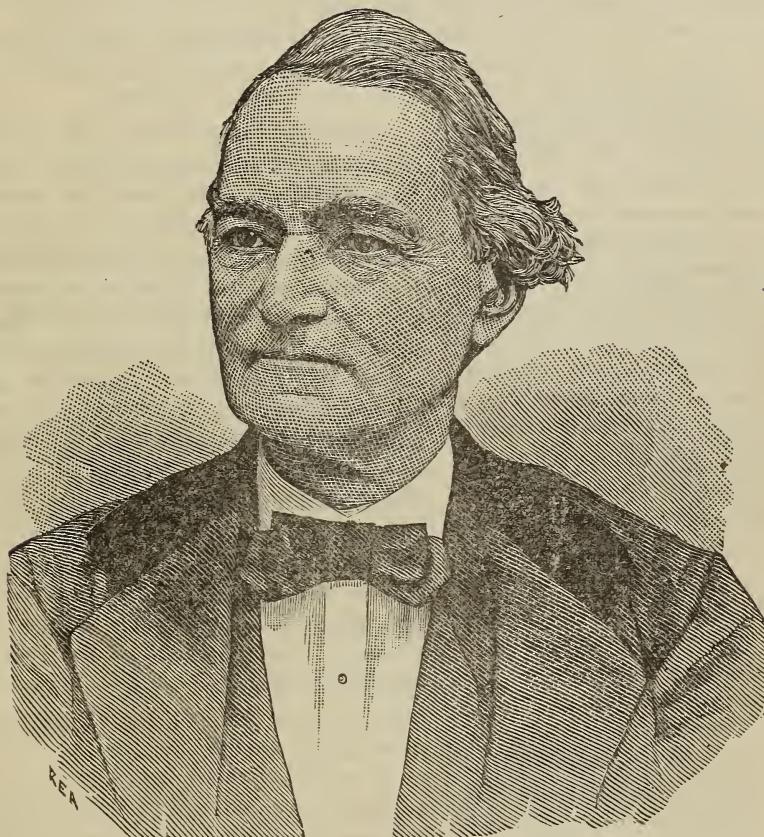


LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

Vol. XXI.

BALTIMORE, APRIL, 1884.

No. 4.



Hon. George Colton.

It gives us much pleasure to lay before our readers the electro-photograph of the Hon. George Colton, who enjoys a commendable reputation far beyond the limits of our State, and whose pleasant face is perhaps known personally to a greater number of all classes and denominations of our people than that of any eminent man living at present in Maryland. We feel therefore excusable in giving a short sketch of his history.

By the exercise of an indomitable energy and perseverance in what he esteemed right, strict temperance and laborious study he has steadily risen from the humbler walks of life to a proud eminence. During his career he has held many minor offices of trust: for many years, State Printer and Proprietor of the *Maryland Republican*, of which paper he is still joint owner and editor. He served several years in the legislature of the State and is at present the chief of the Board of Baltimore City Police. Always an active politician, he is looked to as one of the leaders of the democracy in Maryland. He has had always a fondness for literature and been a steady contributor to the press for many years. Mr. Colton has found time to travel much in his own land and in foreign countries, Europe and Asia, and given to the world the result of his European and Eastern tour, in an admirably written book, which for anecdotal detail, close observation and interesting deductions will compare favorably with any book of travels ever issued from the press. Mr. Colton is not only a fluent writer in both prose and poetry, but is a highly popular lecturer upon social and religious subjects, by which he has been able often to contribute largely toward churches and other religious and charitable institutions. There is much in this gentleman's career that reminds us forcibly of the history of the late ex-president Johnson, and we learn that they plied their vocation as tailors, in their early lives, at the same time; often one employed men who had worked for the other, thus an intimacy sprung up between them which continued uninterupted to the day of the lamented Johnson's death.

Such is his youthful gait and quiet demeanor, subdued vim and yet boyish elasticity, wielding so strong an influence in his party, that we have heard both rival partizans and political opponents call him the "old-boy." Among other honors conferred on Mr. Colton, is one peculiarly

striking—he is president of the Editorial Association of Maryland. We have thus briefly touched upon the salient points in the public life of George Colton.

It is neither because he is a prominent politician, a literary man, a lecturer, a well known citizen, a traveller, orator and poet that we have dignified our columns with his picture, but because he is a practical and excellent *farmer*. He has taught his neighbors how to "make two blades of grass grow where one, or none, grew before," and to show how important and profitable poultry-raising is as an industry, which has been heretofore too long neglected.

Mr. Colton has a fine farm of one hundred and fifty acres near Jessup's Cut, in Howard county, Md., which is now under a high state of cultivation, brought up from infertility to its present paying condition by the free use of fertilizers, under a well conceived and judicious use of them in strict accord with a sound enlightenment of the advanced ideas and progress in agriculture, as theoretically taught and practiced by intelligent farmers of the present day. On this farm we see a great variety of fowls and their superiority make the collection one of the best, and of highest repute in the United States. Here are to be seen in perfection, Light and Dark Brahmias, Black Spanish, Polish, White and Brown Leghorns, varieties of the Cochin, games of four of the most famous varieties and the lovely Bantams *ad infinitum et ad justum* of all breeds and sorts. To his prominence in poultry breeding, and zeal in getting up a poultry show for Maryland, he owes his election as the first President of the Maryland Poultry and Pigeon Association, which place of high honor he has retained from the first origin of this Association up to the present, with great credit to both himself and the Society, which is doing so much for the public good.

We close this hasty notice of the subject of our illustration by adding what we find

in that valuable book—Biographical Cyclopaedia of Representative men of Maryland.—“Mr. Colton is now a gentleman of sixty years of age (7 years ago) but with such excellent health, freshness of countenance and vivacity of manner and expression as to appear less than fifty. He is of medium height, has a massive forehead and clear penetrating eyes. He is exceedingly pleasant and genial. A thoroughly self-made man, he owes his great success in life and long-continued prominence in political affairs solely to his native genius, and to his abilities as a leader.”

Mr. Colton was left an orphan when 12 years old; his parents were English and came to this country in 1819. They had 13 children, of whom Mr. Colton was the puniest and sickliest, yet he has survived all his brothers and sisters. Such is his general demeanor and peculiarity of dress—usually a neat and dark colored dress, tall beaver and white cravat—that he often is taken for a preacher. On one occasion he was sitting in a methodist meeting, when after the preacher had finished his discourse, he beckoned to Mr. C. and said “will not our stranger-brother close the meeting with an appropriate exhortation?” But brother Colton declined as he was not a preacher. An elderly lady of this city, religiously inclined, took great interest in reading the foreign letters published in the “American,” most of them having a serious and solemn vein running through them, she said, “Oh! how I would like to hear this man preach.” This being told as a joke to Mr. Colton after his return, he sent to that lady a splendidly bound copy of his letters of travel after the revision and corrections he made, that they might appear in book-form. This book is highly appreciated and treasured by the lady, under the circumstances.

New Subscribers are constantly coming in our ranks,

### Farm Work for April.

This is a busy month for farmers and all introductory remarks are unnecessary, therefore we should begin our suggestions in medias res without any circumlocution.

#### Oats and Seed Sowing.

Owing to the past unusual wet and changeable winter, it is likely, but few have sown their oat crop. If oats are to be sown, plow the land fertilize and manure strongly, harrow the oats in with a heavy drag, or the Improved Iron Shovel plow; then sow the grass seeds, with no niggardly hand; harrow with a “smoothing harrow” and roll, so as to compact the soil about the seed.

#### Grass Seeds.

Sow grass seeds among the young wheat, as early as possible. At the same time sow plaster 1 bushel per acre, and if there was no salt or fertilizer sown when the wheat was sown or since, then by all means, mix 2 or 3 bushels of salt with the bushel of plaster. Or, a good top-dressing would be 6 bushels fine ground bones with two bushels of plaster. Harrow all with the smoothing harrow or some other light harrow, and if the land be baked so that the harrow pulls up the wheat by breaking the ground in clods, then follow directly with the roller. This perhaps would, under any circumstances, be the better course for both the wheat and the grass seeds, which would likely to come up better, especially in a dry spell. We would sow mixed seeds, clover, red top, orchard grass or blue grass always presuming that timothy was sown last autumn.

#### Tobacco.

Continue at proper seasons to prepare the crop for market. Keep the tobacco beds clear of grass. If the fly proves troublesome, use the following mixture which we have, years gone by, found very effectual in not only driving off the insects but stimulating the growth of the plants, to enable them to get beyond the power of the fly. The proportions are, 1 bushel of dry well decomposed horse manure, or rich wood's earth would do, beat fine and run through a coarse sieve,  $\frac{1}{2}$  peck of plaster,  $\frac{1}{2}$  peck of soot, and 2 pounds of flower of sulphur, all well intermixed and manipulated. Sow over the beds just thick enough to conceal the small plants. They will soon push through. The fly will leave, at least for a while.

#### Orchards and Trees.

Continue to plant trees of all sorts as you find an hour at a time. Hasten your orchard plant-

ing. Be sure and get good sorts of fruit and plenty of them. Canning establishments will soon be in your neighborhoods as the business is profitable and increasing every year. Plant now and take pains in doing so; cultivate well and study arboriculture that you may be ready to meet the demands, at your doors, for your fruits, from those who will can and dry them by the wholesale.

The varieties we prefer for our section are as follows: APPLES.—Red Astrachan, Porter, Baldwin, Smith's cider or English Red Streak, Pomme de Api, Bell-fleur, and Russet, with such others as are known to do well in your neighborhood:

PEARS.—For standards, we recommend Bartlett, Seckel, Lawrence and Anjou. For dwarfs Louis Bond de Jersey, Lawrence, Belle Lucrative, Bosc, Vickar of Winkfield, and Easter Burree.

GRAPES.—Concord, Roger's No. 32, Delaware, Pocklington, Madeira, and Clinton for wine.

CHERRIES.—May Bigarreau, Elton, Black Tartarian, Yellow Spanish, and White Wax.

PEACHES.—Crawford's early and late, Old Mixon, both free and cling, Smock's late, and Heath's late with some Lemon Clings and free-stones.

#### Purchasing Trees.

In ordering trees select the nearest reliable nursery. In that case the trees will have been raised as nearly as possible under the same conditions of soil and climate as that into which they are to be transplanted.

#### Potatoes.

We advise a large planting of potatoes. It is always a profitable crop either for market or home consumption. Make the land rich with stable manure, prepare it thoroughly and use ashes or phosphate fertilizers as a top dressing and in the rows with leaves or cut straw. Cover well and keep the soil stirred with harrow, hoe and cultivator, until they begin to blossom, when they should be hilled by the plow, leaving the hill or ridge about the vines level, yet slightly dished to hold water.

Make early and late Rose your principal crop. Plant Burbank and try some, or several of the new varieties, in a small way, until you ascertain their respective values. Such experiments never bring loss, and sometimes result in much profit. If a peck of a new sort costs \$2.00, its products will certainly return that amount and enough over to pay for labor and use of land, &c., and it may be that for your soil and clime you

have hit upon a bonanza. So be not discouraged, but experiment with one or more of the new varieties, and let the Maryland farmer have the result of your careful experiments in this and other farming matters for the benefit of its thousands of readers. Use land plaster, gypsum, freely on the young and growing vines, broadcast.

#### Roots.

Prepare the land intended for the root crops now, ready for the seed the last of the month or first of next month. Manure heavily, plow deeply and harrow well, until it is in fine tilth. Before sowing the seed, put on 400 pounds of super phosphate. Sugar beets, carrots, parsnips and mangolds to be sown at the time just stated.

#### Plaster.

If you did not sow your plaster in February or March, do so now. It is never too late to sow plaster; it never comes amiss on clover and all broad leaved plants, like corn, cabbage, tobacco, &c.

#### Brood Sows.

Take care of these, and feed well with plenty of swill or slops while nursing. Continue to let the pigs have skimmed milk with a little scalded meal or wheat bran in it. If you have a clover or grass plot near the pen, let the little fellows have access to it, and you will be astonished how they will grow if they be Berkshires, Chesters, or Poland Chinas, but if they are of the Land-pike stock, they will grow poorer the more they consume.

#### Sheep.

The ewes and young lambs ought to have a plenty of grass or allowed to run on the rye field for a couple of weeks, then put on the clover, or be fed generously with roots and oats, or chopt corn and shorts. Let us advise you to keep all the best of your ewe-lambs for breeding, and permit no price, however tempting to induce you to sell them to the butcher. This ruinous practice is too often indulged in by our sheep-growers. Such males as are not intended for sale or home consumption should be emasculated when very young, before the hot weather come on.

#### Corn.

We do not think we can say of this crop anything new or more to the purpose than repeating what we said some years ago, with a few alterations to suit the change of events. This season is one that great care should be exercised in planting seed likely to vegetate. Be sure and plant none but what has been tested, for there is a dearth in good seed, owing to the season of last

fall. Pure seed, well ripened is in great demand, for it is hard to find almost in any State, so unusual has been the defect in this grain, the past year, in its vegetative properties. Be sure then to get sound seed or you will likely miss a crop this year.

Corn, King Corn!—We talk of last, though it is the most important of all. Any time this month when the land is in order is a good time to plant, though our fathers had it as a saying "when the leaves of the oak were as big as a squirrel's ear," just as they felt a surety of success, if they went to the fishing landing when the dogwood was in blossom. Any time from 1st of April to 10th of June will do for corn planting. Perhaps the largest number of corn planters would say the earliest is best, and would advise to plant just as soon as it could be done. Owing to the variableness of our seasons of late years, we are inclined to think that it would be wise to plant about half of the crop very early and the other half late in the season. If we were required however, to confine ourselves to one or the other, we should prefer the early planting. Early planting has these objections, the ground is then not in as good condition for sprouting the seed, and a long, cold wet spell would rot the corn; and again, the cut-worm is invariably troublesome, neither of these serious objections are to be held against late planting.

The advantages of early planting are, the certainty that the crop will be well matured, and it will be cultivated and laid by, before harvest; tobacco planting and other severe, pressing work of the farm come on—this is a great consideration, and it certainly yields well if there should not be a drought at the critical moment when it is tasseling and shooting. The advantage of late planting is the almost positive certainty that it will have seasonable weather when it is in its critical state.

The first preparation for a good corn crop is heavy manuring, deep plowing, thorough pulverization of the soil. At the last harrowing sow 400 pounds per acre of super phosphate, or Charleston bone, with four or five bushels of salt—we think salt will pay, if in no other way, in destroying or driving off the worm—we have used it with striking effect. The land is now ready for checking off for hills, 4 by 4 feet for tall growing sorts, or for the drill, which we prefer. With the proper drill the furrow is opened, corn dropped and covered at one operation which saves a great amount of labor. If the smoothing harrow is to be used

after the corn comes up, it should be planted three inches deep

The next requirement is to have prime seed from reliable parties, who will vouch for its purity. If yellow corn is to be planted, we recommend Cloud's Early Dent Corn, or the Leaming Corn; if white is to be grown, you will find several varieties advertised, and there are many other sorts that are to be had of a very superior kind. But be sure and get prime seed from a prolific sort, such as has yielded 100 to 130 bushels of shelled corn to the acre, and that too in our own State. As soon as the corn is planted, go over with the smoothing harrow, and harrow with it, first one way, then the other every week or ten days, until the corn is three to six inches high—no danger of injuring the corn—but by this means every shoot of grass is destroyed as it springs up; but it must not be allowed to get foot-hold before you commence your war upon them with this wonderful harrow. This harrow will go over 15 or 20 acres per day. When the corn is six inches high, then work it with the Iron Beam, Double Shovel Plow, the best implement ever invented for the cultivation of corn. It is light draught, easily managed, only weighing forty pounds. A boy 12 years old can manage it with perfect ease. The crop will require not more than three workings with this implement, and none other, in all ordinary seasons. If the season be dry and the corn grows slowly, it may require the fourth working, but that is not likely if it has been as highly fertilized as we have suggested. Should this plan be strictly pursued, we venture to say that there will be no failure, but the farmer will be amply repaid for all outlay of money and labor, and have the proud satisfaction of knowing he has made one acre produce as much as three would have done under the old system.

### Garden Work for April.

This month is the beginning of incessant labor and vigilance on the part of every gardener, who desires to have a productive garden that will do credit to his skill and industry. Of course he has it already in fair order, so far as the small fruits, hot beds, cold frames and such beds planted and sown with seeds recommended by us last month. If not, he has much to do, and to be done at the earliest moment.

#### **Hot Beds and Cold Frames.**

Attend well to these and give water occasionally with all the air that is possible in balmy weather.

**Cabbage and Lettuce.**

Cabbage plants and lettuce set out this month, unless the weather prove very unfavorable. The large India lettuce is best.

**Beans.**

Sow every week a few rows of bush beans: the white wax is best, as also Early Mohawk. Prepare hills with poles in the centre for Lima and other climbing beans to be planted next month. Make the hills rich or what is best, spread manure heavily around the poles and make soft hill over the manure, hills should be about three inches high.

A very good improvement in growing climbing beans, to save labor and poles is to plant these in rows, 4 feet between rows, and plants to stand 9 to 18 inches apart in the rows. These rows should have posts 16 feet apart, well planted and wires or narrow strips 12 inches apart nailed to them, for the vines to cling to. Posts should be 6 feet or 8 feet high above ground, with the first wire or narrow plank strip, or pole 12 inches above the ground. As the plants grow, tie or incline the vines to them.

**Corn.**

Plant sweet corn. Hydes Large Sugar, or some other variety; Tuscarora is a large, fine white corn, remaining long in the roasting ear state. Plant at intervals, so as to have a succession of this delicious vegetable.

**Potatoes.**

Plant more potatoes unless you have already planted a sufficient quantity for use. Those that may be up and growing, keep well cultivated and sprinkle heavily, ashes and plaster over them.

**Squash or Squablin.**

There may be planted this month, in hills three feet apart, for the White Scallop Bush, and five apart for the running sorts, such as the Summer Crook-neck and other varieties.

**Radishes.**

Sow weekly, in rich, warm soil radishes that you may always have a supply of fresh crisp ones.

**Melons.**

Prepare for these, by checking off the patch with a plow; furrows ought to be deep, say eight inches. The checks 8 by 10 feet or 10 by 12 feet, and in each check place half a bushel of stable, rich manure. Let it lay until time to plant. Do not break the ground between the rows. Secure in time your melon seeds. Be not led away with fancy names. We are lovers of melons and profess to not only be judges of the taste, but have had some experience in the

culture and have tried and tested many sorts, and we come to the conclusion that none are equal to the Taylor grey water-melon, and the netted nutmeg canteloupe, which are grown and are so famous in Anne Arundel county near Baltimore and Annapolis. Nothing can surpass them, for our mouths' water while we write about them. Try some of the new varieties.

**Spinach.**

Manure and well prepare a bed and sow spinach in drills one inch deep, one foot apart. Thin the plants to 4 or 5 inches apart.

**Herbs.**

Sow seeds of culinary herbs in small beds, the plants to set out next July. They will be ready for cutting and drying in September.

**Brots, Parsnips, Carrots and Salsify.**

If these indispensible vegetables have not yet been sown do so immediately. Make the beds rich, except for Parsnips, which require rather thin land, but deeply spaded. If the ground be very rich they will not grow smooth but will be full of side roots.

**Onions.**

If not sown, do so, and plant out the sets.

**Okra.**

Last of the month, drill or plant a few rows of this soup thickener, enricher and flavorer

**Horse Radish.**

Plant this between the cabbage plants, not in rows. The horse radish will not interfere with the cabbage, if they do, cut off the tops, it won't hurt them. When the cabbage is removed your ground will be occupied with horse radish and will require but little work. In the fall, about October, it will be fit to take up. If the land had been properly enriched, you will have a splendid crop, which will bring more in the market than the cabbage. Upon taking up the radish, trim off all side shoots and tie in small bundles, bury them, like potatoes, in the open ground, where they will be ready for planting next year. This planting is easily done, by having a stick with a sharpened ferrule at the end of it, and with that open a hole between each cabbage plant, drop a piece of the root or a whole root, and press your foot on it and the work is done. This is the plan recommended and pursued by Peter Henderson, the celebrated market gardener of New York. He says in this way he gets two valuable crops from the same land the same year in time for the land to be put in another crop to stand the winter. He says the horse-radish is more profitable than the cabbage.

**Celery.**

Set out early plants of this wholesome and popular vegetable as soon as large enough. The Boston Market—a dwarf, species is about the best we know for general purposes. Sow celery seed for autumn and winter crops, in a rich border, and pat the ground with the back of the spade or hoe, or better still, tramp it with the feet.

There is a new variety which all should try, because it comes so well endorsed—we mean "Henderson's White Plume." This new kind will greatly simplify the culture of celery growing, it is positively asserted. It requires no hill-ing up to blanch it, and all the old labor of doing so is unnecessary. Cultivated like other celery, it blanches itself, and when brought on the table is white with a tuft of beautiful yellow leaves instead of green and delicately fringed plume—that please the eye and taste. Yet there are some who say that it is wanting in that nutty flavor that other celery derives from earthing up, and the consequent exclusion of light. Be it so, yet we advise every one to try it, for the immense labor it is warranted to save in its culture, will well repay for the trifling loss of aroma that epicures may detect. If it be what it is said to be, it will create a revolution in growing this delectable addition to the dinner, and will become a common article of food, promotive of health, whereas it has heretofore been rarely seen except upon the tables of the wealthy, because of the labor and tediousness required heretofore to grow it in perfection.

**The Lawn.**

A fine lawn can be obtained by using "Mixed Lawn grasses specially adapted for seeding down Lawns." The soil should be well prepared by thoroughly digging and raking so as to pulver-



ize it, adding some fertilizer or lawn dressing if necessary. Stones and roots must be removed, and if the ground is low it should be drained.

Sow the grass thickly, about three bushels to the acre. The grass must be mowed often and the ground occasionally rolled. With a little care a beautiful lawn can be obtained, adding both to the beauty and value of a place, at little cost of time or labor by the frequent use of a Lawn Mower, a cut of which is here given, furnished us by Messrs. Whitman, Sons & Co. of this city who will furnish this mixed seed at 25 cents per quart by mail, and larger quantities by express at proportionally lesser rate. One quart is enough for a plot 20x15 feet.

**Small Fruits.**

If you have not a full supply, do not neglect a day to supply yourself with a sufficiency of the various sorts. Of strawberries, we would suggest that you try some of the new varieties, but for chief reliance, depend upon the old favorites, Wilson's Albany, Triumphe de Gand, Capt. Jack (rather newer,) &c.

*Currants*, Red Dutch, Black Naples, and white Grape.

*Blackberries*.—New Rochelle, and Missouri Cluster.

*Gooseberries*.—Houghton and Downing are the best for general culture. They bear every year large crops, free from mildew, excellent quality and large enough for all practical purposes. Immense quantities can be raised on small spaces if the land be rich, moist and somewhat shaded. This fruit grows well in shade if the ground be rich. It is in all stages of its growth very saleable at good prices. Any time this month or early part of May will do to plant out all small fruits, if the ground be well prepared and made fertile.

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**WOOD ASHES.**—Wood ashes are one of the most valuable fertilizers that a farmer can apply to his soil. For root crops of all kinds, grasses, clover, &c., they will be found just what is needed to stimulate and feed the crop. The ash is the mineral element of any vegetable structure, and therefore indispensable to its growth. The farmer who will sell his ashes is actually parting with so much of the fertility of his farm. As an application to reclaim marsh land, the effect of ashes is often wonderful.  
—*Michigan Farmer.*

**Catarrh of the Bladder.**

Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all Kidney, and Urinary Complaints, cured by "Buchy-paiba." \$1.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Cutting and Curing Hay.

To the readers of the MARYLAND FARMER it may look like discussing an unseasonable topic to enter upon the consideration of the above subject, but when such thoughts occur it should be remembered that there is a saying that "In time of peace prepare for war," and so, while at ease the farmer can consider this subject.

There is no part of the farmer's occupation that requires the exercise of better judgment than that of securing the hay crop in a proper manner. Upon this depends the prosperity of farm stock during the winter season; and every farmer has learned that the thrift of his animals in winter depend upon the kind of fodder employed. If poor and half cured, animals feel the effects very soon; they lose flesh and have no strong desire to consume the food that is furnished them. But on the other hand, if good and well cured, and cut at the proper time, animals relish it, and will thrive upon it even through the severe days of winter.

Now there are reasons for these diverse results. In the first place, hay should be of reasonably good quality; but even if this condition exists, and it is cut out of season, and improperly cured, so far as regards its value for feeding purposes, it will be very nearly ruined; even a purer quality of hay, cut in season and well cured, would be better than the first mentioned.

It is an old saying that stock well wintered is half summered; if this be so, how important then that the provision for wintering be well made.

The first and most important condition is that hay should be cut in season, and as a general rule, the best time is when in full blossom, for then having accumulated all the gum, sugar and starch necessary for the formation of seed it possesses all the elements that the mature seed would contain and at the same time the stalk is yet tender and easily digestible; whereas if the same stand until the seed is matured, the stalk becomes changed very largely to simple woody fiber which is hard and indigestible. Nor is this all: Liebig has said that all plants that are allowed to mature their seed, return to the earth a portion of their substance in the form of excrementitious matter; so, by allowing

hay to stand too long, nutrient principles are actually lost instead of there being any gain.

If any one doubts the choice of cattle in this respect they have only to test the matter by placing before them some of each kind—that cut early with its rich aroma, and other that is cut late with its hard woody stalk, with no fragrance to tempt the animal appetite—and unless the animals are of an unaccountable breed, they will push the latter aside for the former, which they will greedily devour.

Then as to the curing it should be just right, neither dried too much nor too little if that can be determined.

A great many fall into the error of curing too much, so that the hay becomes brittle and will not pack properly in the mow.

If all artificial moisture is dried out of hay, and the juices just thickened or set, it is in the best possible condition for putting into the mow, which should always be done as near the middle of the day as possible, and when the hay is hot.

By all means, carting hay when the dew begins to fall, should be avoided. In all cases possible hay should be cut and cured without being wet by rains.

When it can be so accomplished it is often advantageous to cut hay in the latter part of the afternoon when there is much less dew than in the morning, and which gives an opportunity of working upon it as soon as the dew is off.

If hay is to be left out over night, it is often more convenient to leave it in the winrow—especially if there are no indications of rain—than to bunch it, requiring less labor to cure the second day.

Clover can be well cured in the swath by one or two turnings, and less of the leaves are lost than where it is handled considerably; or it may be put into small heaps which will usually cure through in a day or two.

By following a few general principles which present themselves to reason, no difficulty need be in the way of properly curing hay. It will be far better to commence a little too early in cutting hay than to wait until it is a little too late.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.  
Columbia, Conn.

“Rough on Corns.”  
Ask for Well’s “Rough on Corns.” 15c. Quick, complete, permanent, cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

### Numbers and Values of Farm Animals in Maryland, January, 1884.

The following extracts are taken from the able and careful report of J. R. Dodge, statistician of the Agricultural Department at Washington, published in February last:

"It is gratifying to observe that in the Southern States there is unusual interest in stock improvement, and many reports are made of the introduction of Short-horns and Herefords for beef, and Holsteins and Jerseys for milk.

There is evidently abroad in the land a desire for better breeds and better methods of feeding and treatment, more general, probably, than at any previous period. As prices advance, and the difference in stock value between scrubs and animals that honor their pedigrees becomes more generally apparent, better blood and feed will be more appreciated, and greater care given to cattle. And as prices advance, and margins for profits are closer, the economies of feeding will be more inquired into, scientific aids invoked, and some effort made towards saving the one hundred million dollars, more or less, unnecessarily lost in feed consumed "for fuel," on account of exposure to wet and cold, avoidable by provision of shelter and suitable warmth for fattening animals. Corn and hay are the most expensive materials for shelter that can be used in the protection of fattening cattle.

There has been an increase in the values of horses, mules and all kinds of cattle, with a considerable decline in the prices of swine, and a small falling off in the values of sheep. The comparison of average values with those of last year is as follows;

STOCK.	1883	1884.
Horses.....	\$70 59	\$74 64
Mules.....	79 49	84 22
Milch cows.....	30 21	31 37
Oxen and other cattle.....	21 80	23 52
Sheep.....	2 53	2 37
Swine.....	6 75	5 57

In the case of swine prices are always fluctuating from various causes, the principal being the ups and downs in corn values. The home consumption rules the price of corn, which, therefore, varies with the pro-

duct made; and stock hogs and pork products sympathize with these fluctuations. It sometimes happens, as in some places this season, that the abundance of corn, which must be consumed at once, has increased prices of stock hogs above the probable relative value of the hogs when ready for market, because of their comparative scarcity.

The corn failure of 1881 made pork very high in 1882, while the larger harvest of that year has had some effect in reducing the value of swine. Very low rates for swine or hog products cannot be expected while the corn supply is below an average, as it has been since 1881. The reduction in exportation of corn, by reason of the high price, cannot add much to the home supply; and the loss in exportation of pork products, both from high prices and hostile foreign legislation, is not a sufficient factor to make pork as cheap as in the era of surplus corn production.

Table showing the estimated number of animals on farms, total value of each kind and average price, January 1884:

MARYLAND	NUMBER	Avgre. Price.	VALUE.
Horses.....	122,788	\$83 85	\$10,295,744
Mules.....	12,839	112 12	1,429,509
Milch cows.....	124,750	36 25	4,522,187
Oxen & other cattle	139,592	26 41	3,686,625
Sheep.....	172,022	3 33	572,833
Hogs.....	335,413	7 54	2,452,614

[This report gives over 6,000 sheep killed by dogs during 1883. Let the farmers of Maryland study the above statement, and see if the State cannot be made to make a better showing for 1885. In the simple item of sheep, it reflects but poor credit on the farmers of such a State to claim a credit of only 172,000 sheep, when there should be not less than *one million*, thriving on lands lying waste, at this moment, within the State limits. Such lands ought to yield a large income instead of nothing, and twenty fine sheep should be seen where one is now on the improved soils, if men would only have the nerve to kill the marauding dogs—punish the sheep stealers and defend this timid, helpless but wonder-

fully useful animal, the poor sheep which cleans our field of noxious briars, weeds and bushes, gives us warm clothing and the wholesomest diet that our nature require.  
—EDS. MD. FAR.]

#### Well-Cultivated Land.

We once experimented by hauling twenty-four large loads of the best manure upon two acres of clay-loam land, had it well cultivated into the soil, which had been worked in the ordinary way, but was somewhat lumpy. This, and the adjoining two acres, were to be sown to corn for fodder. Upon the other two acres no manure was put, but it was plowed and cultivated till the soil, four inches deep, was as fine as a garden bed. One and a half bushels of corn were drilled per acre upon each piece, drills 16 inches apart. When this corn was in blossom and ready to cut, the unmanured two acres stood 18 inches higher than the manured piece. On selecting two sample rods in different places upon each piece cutting the green corn, and carefully weighing it, the manured piece gave 275 pounds per rod, and the unmanured, but finely pulverized, gave 350 pounds per rod—the manured giving 22 tons per acre, and the other, 28 tons per acre. The cost of extra working was \$2.50 per acre. Could there be any doubt that the extra labor was well paid for?

It must be evident to every thoughtful farmer, that the first thing to be done in furnishing food for crops, is to work more thoroughly and give finer pulverization, and when this is accomplished, then an application of some fertilizer.—*Live-Stock Journal.*

#### Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, Y.—\*

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### Importance of Good Seed Corn and the Conditions of Soils for Large Yields.

For some years it has been a point with me to secure the best seed corn I could find, and in selecting it not to depend upon its good looks. But upon other qualities, which I desire to call the attention of your readers to. First the size of the cob and secondly the size of the stalk. Without an accurate balance to test the matter one will be surprised to find how much corn differs. The standard usually used is 70lbs. of corn on the cob per a bushel of 56lbs. I have found corn that will only yield 50lbs. to 70lbs. on the cob, and others that will shell 61lbs., one giving 20lbs. of cob and the others only 9lbs. The latter is the corn for the farmer, which combined with a small stalk gives me the desired corn, as grain is what I am after and not woody matter, such as is found in a big cob and stalk, and of but little use except to increase the work of handling, and when sold on the cob deprives the purchaser of his full share of corn. Other objections to a large cob and stalk will be observed further on. In the report of the Connecticut agricultural station some years ago they gave a full list of the corn of that State, and finding the party who sent it to the station, I ordered a few bushels on the ear, and the result of my examination agreed with the station report so far as I could go, having no stalk to weigh. This corn averaged 60lbs. to the 70lbs. on the cob, and the small stock astonished many when their attention was called to the large ear. Hearing of a similar corn raised in Chester county, Pa., and my own having become mixed, concluded to order some to test its merits and compare the yield of corn per 70lbs. in the cob. Altho' not quite coming up to my Connecticut it is the nearest to it of any I have found, and intend planting some of it the coming season, especially as the party who claims to have produced this corn by repeated selections for the past twenty years, is endorsed by a personal friend, as a reliable and truthful man. He also claims for it a small stalk, and here comes in my argument in favor of a small cob and stalk. Corn is an air plant, composed principally of starch in the grain, and cellulose in every other part of the plant,

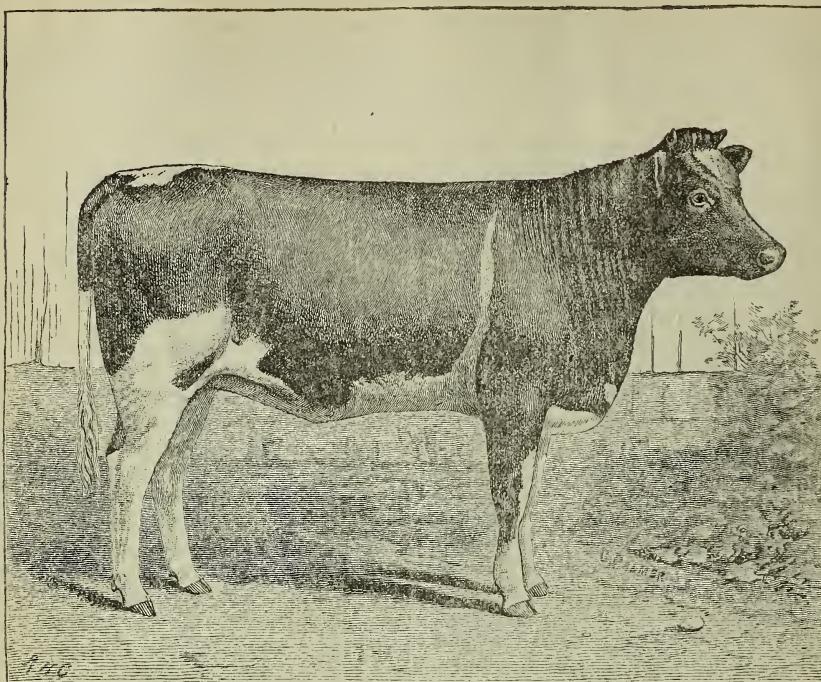
hence is composed of carbon hydrogen and oxygen gases united by the vital force of the roots, I mention roots for there life commences. The unity of these gases, brings into view organic matter. How it is done I leave for vital force to answer. For a crop, say of sixty bushels of corn per acre to build up all the woody matter and starch will need many thousand pounds of air and water to furnish the necessary carbon, for at least sixty per cent. of the whole plant is this important element. When it is considered that an organization depends upon (as a primary source the small speck of carbonic acid found in air and water, the questions bring in view several important matters, for the consideration of farmers. First, how to secure this large supply of carbon (thousands of pounds per acre,) for be it remembered that no artificial fertilizer contributes an atom, unless I admit the escape of carbonic acid from the putrifying animal matter injected into fertilizers for the purpose of furnishing the one to two per cent. ammonia claimed. This is an expensive way to obtain either, when it can be shown that the inorganic kingdom supplies both without price, when the land is in a condition to absorb and retain both, *i.e.* when there is a soil containing the proper supply of the immoveable elements such as sand, clay, lime, potash, and phosphorus in the shape of phosphate of lime, magnesia, sulphur, &c., properly mingled with carbonaceous matter, which includes humus and its kindred combination formed from the decay of vegetable matter, rendering the soil porous to admit of a free circulation of heat, air and water, supplying the elements necessary to form the large amount of organic matter found in a fair crop of corn, even with a small cob and stalk. To secure this result it is absolutely necessary to keep the soil well stirred up, loose and porous, so that the numerous roots will meet the descending rains, condensing dews and circulating air from which a crop of corn *must come*. Who has not seen the wonderful result to a withering field of corn on the hottest and dryest day from the plow or cultivator, which only gave a chance for the air loaded with moisture and carbonic acid to reach the roots and build up new cells by the million in a few hours, through the force of vital power. On real stiff, brick clay soil, with all the carbonaceous matters burnt out by long tillage rendering

it imporous to air and water, I would never advise any quick growing, plant like corn, tobacco and cotton, or any other plant that requires a large supply of cellulose within, say ninety days. For timothy, wheat and other grasses of a slow growing nature, they may secure enough of carbonic acid and hydrogen to give a fair crop from a clay soil, but such land I would never advise anyone to buy, when a sandy soil can be obtained, for it can be easily improved. Don't be afraid of the sinking of manure, for the sinking of manure means the sinking of water, leaving a channel for air and water, the foundation of all organic life. Ninety-eight per cent. of all that grows, comes from air and water, the bulk of which comes from the small proportion of carbonic acid found in nature, and but a *trifle* from the abundant supply of nitrogen found everywhere. In conclusion as you have advertised for sale some of the corn I have spoken of, I would advise your readers to try it in *small doses*, and it may prove to be what is claimed for it, and in that case a paying investment. All know how close and suffocating it is on a warm day in a corn field, owing to the non-circulation of air, and as corn robs the air of the little carbonic acid it contains must be convincing proof of the importance of a free circulation, and for this reason I can fully understand the force of the policy advocated by one of your correspondents, who recommends the rows some 8 feet apart. I shall try 6 feet divided one foot apart which will give me over 7,000 stalks per acre, and if I can raise an ear to each stalk such as those I examined of the Cloud corn, I will have a hundred bushels per acre, as they averaged 68 ears to the bushel. On good, rich and porous land where air and water circulates freely, I do not consider 100 bushels an extraordinary yield, although so much above the average.

Reader remember that 98 per cent. of all the organic matter of the grain, stalk, cob, leaves, husk and tassel of corn comes from air and water, *i.e.* the vital power of the plant transforms carbonic acid and water into food for man and beast. See that a good supply of both is within reach of the roots, and a small supply of fertilizers is all that is needed.

A. P. SHARP,

Rock Hall, Md.



MERCEDES III.

8 Mos.

Owned by Smiths &amp; Powell, "Lakeside Stock Farm, Syracuse, N. Y."

## LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

## MERCEDES 3d.

At the recent sale of Holsteins, which was held in Chicago, during the Fat Stock Show, Messrs. Smiths & Powell, of Syracuse, N. Y., bought the calf "Mercedes 3d," for which they paid \$4,200, an account of which we have already published. In this issue we have the pleasure of placing before our readers a very accurate and life-like engraving, taken from life by C. Palmer. "Mercedes 3rd" was eight months old when the picture was taken. She is out of "Mercedes," which won the Breeders Gazette Challenge Cup for best yield of butter in 30 consecutive days, when she made 99 pounds 6½ oz., vanquishing her Jersey competitors. She is a grand-daughter, through her sire, of the well-known cow "Aegis," so long one of the prominent members of the Lakeside herd, and whose milk record is only fourth in the list of milk records, the greatest yield, 18,120 lbs. 8 oz., in a year, having been made by her

sister. The two next largest were made by "Aaggie 2d" (the latter but two years old), giving respectively 18,004 lbs. 15 oz., and 17,746 lbs., 2 oz., in a year, next is "Aegis," with 16,853 lbs. 10 oz., in a year. "Aaggie Rosa," a niece of "Aaggie," has given 12,914 lbs., 15 oz. in 8 mos., 28 days to Jan. 1st, 1884.

THE number of Jersey, Short-horns and Holsteins sold by auction in the United States during the year 1883, together with the average price each class received according to a report furnished the *National Live Stock Journal*, adds up as follows: Short-horns, 3,284, at an average rate of \$205.56; 239 head of Holsteins brought an average of \$373 60 each. The number of Jerseys sold under the hammer numbered 1688, and the average price received was \$409.01.

## Skinny Men.

"Wells' Health Renewer" restores health and vigor, cures Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Disability. \$1.

**Feeding Calves.**

W. D. Boynton, in *Indiana Farmer*, writes sensibly about feeding calves, and says: "Even when they are given sufficient feed as a whole, there is no certainty that each will get its share. In fact, there is every probability that the weak ones, that most need favoring, will be kept back, and the surplus feed, if there be any, trod under foot before they can get their share. This abominable practice of turning young calves together is positively cruel, and the source of much unnecessary loss. Even the strongest will not thrive so well as they would if fed separately and uniformly, and in such a manner that they cannot foul over what is given them."

"The best arrangement that I ever saw for stabling calves was a set of little stalls with sliding gates at the backs of them, and each calf turned loose into its little stall, where it had a small rack for hay and a box for grain.

"They will soon learn to know their snug little quarters, and trot into them without any driving or urging. As the stalls are all alike, it would make no difference if they did not take the same stall each time.

"No farmer can have a good herd of cattle of his own raising unless he treats his calves well. Of all the foolish and unwise practices of the farmer, that of slighting his stock when they are young and small, will no doubt head the list. To save \$5 investment in work and lumber in building a suitable place for them, he loses each winter \$25 worth of stock, to say nothing of the cruelty he is guilty of."

**Early Lambs.**

In many localities an early lamb will sell for more money than will the ewe and her fleece; therefore, where there is a market for early lambs the breeding of these is a very profitable business, if the person who attempts it, is provided with ample shelter and understands the management of both ewes and lambs.

Lambs for early market are bred so as to be dropped in February and March. February is a hard month to bring them through, and without judicious treatment and warm shelter, many lambs will be lost. The chief aim is to get the lambs ready for market as soon as possible, as it is the earliest arrivals that gain the highest prices. It is necessary to keep the dams in good

condition with sufficient food to make plenty of nourishing milk.

Experience and judgment are required in feeding the lambs; they must have food enough to promote rapid, healthy growth, and yet of a character that will not produce scouring. While the lambs are still with the ewes, it is well to supply them additional food. They can soon be taught to drink milk which is fresh and warm from the cow. Later on oats, rye and wheat bran finely ground together make an excellent food. As a gentle laxative a few ounces of linseed oil cake will be found beneficial and at the same time nourishing.

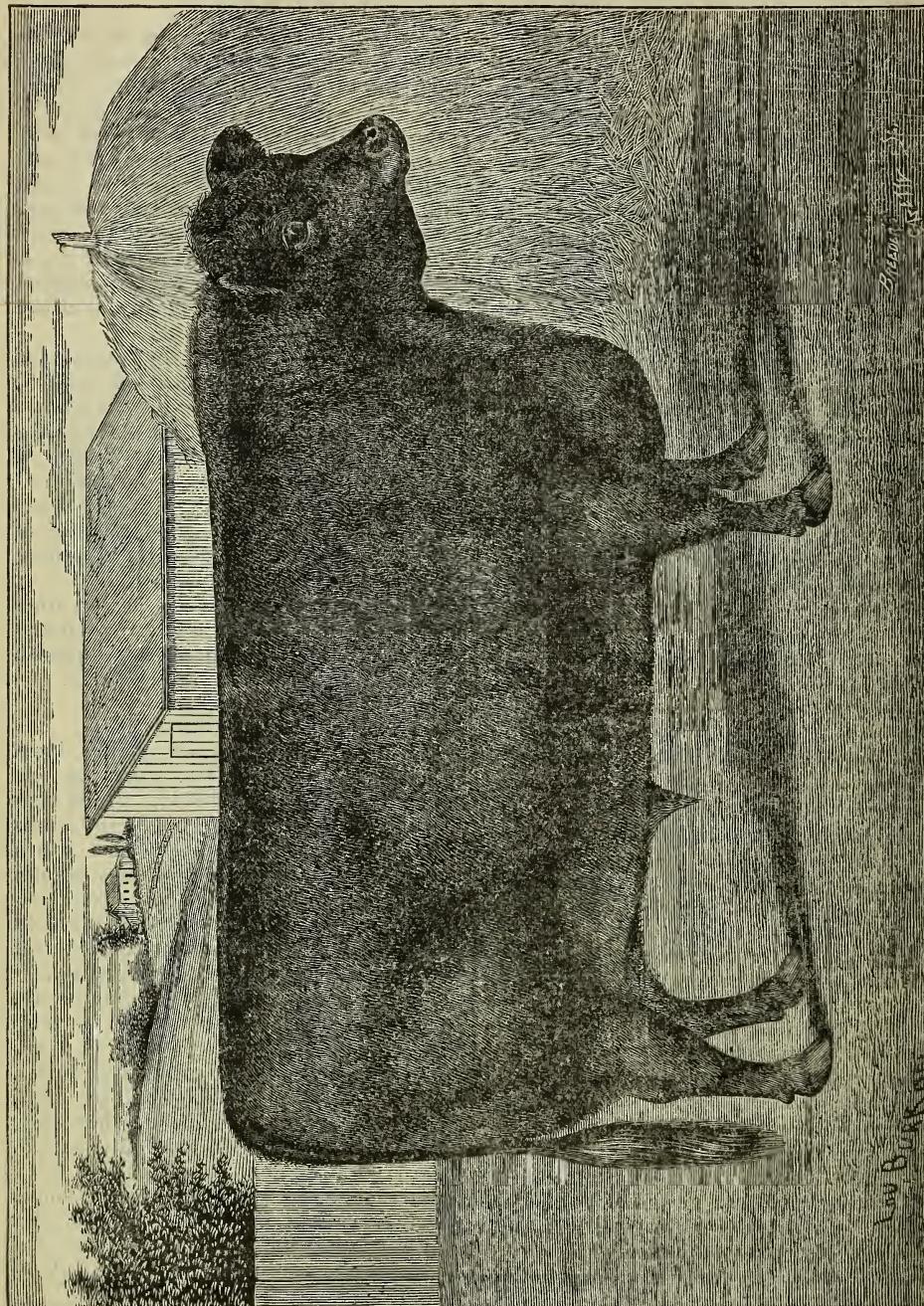
As the lambs approach the period for weaning, food should be increased; indeed, the weaning must be very gradually accomplished. The sudden removal of the lambs from their dams, is injurious to both. A plan generally followed to avoid the evil effects of a sudden change, is that of removing the lambs to a good pasture of short, tender grass, and at night returning them to the fold with the ewes.

The condition of the ewes at this time must not be neglected. Their feed should be gradually diminished, so as to diminish the yield of milk.—*New York World*.

**Weaning Lambs.**

On this soon-to-be timely matter, Hon. C. M. Clay, of Kentucky, writes as follows to the *Indiana Farmer*; "Last year I failed to put an old sheep with my lambs weaned. In consequence I think I lost a considerable number, because they did not find the salt and water. This year I put an old ewe with the ewe lambs and an old buck or so with the buck lambs; the result was my lambs were never finer, some reaching over 100 pounds before six months old. In speaking with another breeder of pure Southdowns, in Bourbon county he complained of severe losses with his lambs, which he attributed to the bucks he used, being imported from England, where they are so pampered and artificially raised. There might be some reason in this; but I found that he like myself, had put his lambs together without any old sheep as a leader and he, on hearing my report, agreed that he had made a mistake. I commended these facts to all sheep-breeders.

**That Husband of Mine**  
Is three times the man he was before he began  
using "Wells' Health Renewer." \$1, Druggists,



BLACK PRINCE. IMPORTED BY GEARY BROS., LONDON, ONT.

**Black Prince.**

We are able through the courtesy of that excellent paper "The Live Stock Monthly," of Portland, Me., to give an illustration of imported Aberdeen-Angus bullock Black Prince, with the accompanying remarks of that elegant journal.

"In general the drawing is an excellent view of the animal, the only criticism we would make is that it falls a trifle short of giving one a correct idea of his grand *length*. The wonderful evenness, depth, and prime beef points, however, are admirably depicted, and the picture will serve to reveal to breeders of other sorts who were not present at the Kansas city or Chicago shows that there is truly "another Richmond in the field," whose excellence cannot be overlooked by the intelligent breeder of Shorthorns or Herefords. We do not state this as any new discovery. The beef-making capability of the Scots has long been acknowledged by all who were familiar with their character. We call attention to this bullock for the purpose of showing to those who are in quest of information upon the subject that their reputation in that particular has a substantial foundation in fact, and does not rest upon any speculative basis. American importers of the Aberdeen Angus and Galloway cattle have put forth bold claims for their stock, and, realizing that a discriminating public would call for a "proof of the pudding," One of the most enterprising firms—the Messrs. Geary, of London, Ont.—at great expense, brought out last July the Aberdeen or Angus ox, above illustrated for the purpose of exhibition at Kansas city and Chicago. He has stood second in a strong ring of two-year-olds at the last Smithfield show in London, and was selected by Mr. Bruce, of Great Smeaton, as worthy of representing the breed on this side. He was bred by Mr. Maitland, of Balhaggart, Inverarie, Scotland, and at the time of his shipment from Liverpool, last July weighed over 2,500 pounds. This, it will be observed, is about 150 pounds heavier than he appeared at our shows, the long ocean journey, the ninety days' quarantine, and the hurried shipment by express, over the long railway route from Quebec to Kansas city having of course, told somewhat against him.

Black Prince was catalogued at Chicago as follows: Date of birth, Feb. 2, 1880; age in days, 1,380; weight Nov. 14, 1883,

2,355 pounds; average gain per day since birth, 1.70 pounds. In his class he was an easy winner, but in the first general competition—that for best three year-old in the show, judged by feeders—he was unsuccessful, the ribbon going to Mr. Culbertson's Hereford-Shorthorn, Roan Boy. The next recontester, however, was a triumph for the black. In competition with all the crack three-year-olds in the hall, for best steer or that age, *judged by butchers*, the blue was awarded to the subject of this sketch, thus avenging the defeat sustained at Kansas city at the hands of the Shorthorn steer Starlight. Inasmuch, however, as the last named steer gained grand sweepstakes for best dressed carcass over Roan Boy, Wabash and other celebrities, it is to be regretted that Black Prince was not slaughtered in order that their appearance on the block might have been compared.

The Messrs. Geary are deserving of unqualified praise for the public spirit, enterprise and liberality evinced by the importation and exhibition (at heavy expense) of this magnificent bullock. They have placed their fellow-breeders under lasting obligations for the benefit accruing to all from his exhibition. Furthermore, it deserves to be said that they have brought out two or three hundred head of Angus during the past year, and they are now probably the largest holders of that breed in the world. Their catalogue will be furnished on application."

**FEEDING GRAIN.**—It is a bad sign for a farmer when he feeds little or no grain except to his horses. It will pay to give some grain daily to sheep, to cows, and to hogs. If well managed, the poultry will usually pay better for the grain they consume than any other stock on the farm.

**PIG PORK.**—As pigs grow older the more feed is required to make a pound of growth. The German feeding tables show that a pig two three months old, weighing fifty pounds, needs daily 2.1 pounds feed. A pig eight to twelve months old, weighing 259 pounds, took 5.2 pounds feed. Pigs at intermediate ages too like proportions. Prof. Miles show that it requires 3.8 pounds meal to make one pound of growth on pigs two to three months old. Stewart says two pounds can be put on a young pig with same feed required to make 1½ pounds on an older shoit.

**SOME LARGE HOGS.**—The New York Sun publishes an account of a lot of hogs that were exposed for sale in that city which probably exceed in size any previous record. Their weights ranged from 866 to 1,098 pounds dressed. Twenty of them weighed 19,648 pounds, an average of 982 pounds. The breed is known as Red and White Jersey. They were raised near Burlington, N. J. In giving an account of them the merchant said: "They were raised by Mr. John Carter. He has some more like them, only one is larger. They press down about fifteen per cent. Those hogs had a better house to live in than a third of the people of this city have. Each hog has a separate stall, that was kept clean and sweet by constant attention and unlimited fresh bedding. They were cared for just as fast horses are. They were fed on meal and milk. As a lot they are the heaviest ever brought to New York, or ever raised for that matter. The largest one of the lot is the largest hog on record except one not slaughtered yet." "Did it pay?" "Yes and no. The gratification of beating the record is always worth the expense. But lighter hogs yield more money on the investment.

**A Little Good Blood Better than None.**

Extravagant claims in behalf of any breed of animal or in behalf of improved stock in general, we believe do much harm. There are some statements which are often seen in papers devoted to live stock improvement which do more harm than good by prejudicing some "practical" men against improved stock. An instance of this is the often quoted remark that nothing but a thoroughbred sire should ever be used; that any grade, however nearly it may approach purity, is absolutely worthless or unsafe for breeding purposes. The trouble with these statements is, that they are not true, and the experience of many farmers has shown them to be untrue. We heartily believe in the value of pure blood when it can be obtained. We count it a mistake, in the very large majority of cases, for farmers to use cross bred or grade animals as sires; but we would much sooner use a high grade than a "scrub" sire. We would much prefer to use a boar, a cross between the Berkshire and the Poland China, than to use a "common stock" sire. If we could not get a pure bred male of any breed we would gladly make use of the

best high grade attainable.

It must be borne in mind that many of what are now pure breeds have been produced in comparatively recent years by crossing animals of different breeds; and that it is well known that some distinguished sires had not more than two or three crosses of the breed they did much to improve. There are sections of the country in which it is difficult, at any reasonable cost, to secure pure bred sires. It is very much better that farmers in such regions should purchase high grade sires than that they make no effort to improve their stock.

Persistent use of well bred males is the cheapest and only practicable way of improving his stock rapidly that is open to many a farmer of limited means. Let him get the best bred sires he can; but do not discourage his efforts and prevent his making any effort at improvement by insisting that it is useless to expect any good results unless a recorded sire be used.—*Breeder's Gazette.*

**REMEMBER.**—The horse has a very acute faculty for understanding and interpreting the tone of the voice. If you talk confidently, the animal acquires confidence; if your voice shows fear he notices it and is afraid. Talk kindly to your horse, and be sure that he understands the meaning of the tone of the voice.

**EARLY LAMBS.**—A lamb will begin to eat when it is from ten days to two weeks old. There is nothing better for them than whole oats. Place them in shallow troughs where the lambs can run and the old sheep cannot. Keep them growing, and you may command fancy prices.

**VALUES OF PROPERTIES IN THE UNION.**—The farms of the United States are worth \$10,197,000,000, while all other real estate, including the dwellings and warehouses of the cities, the capital employed in the business, and the water-power besides, is but \$9,881,000,000; railroads and their equipment are worth but \$5,336,000,000; and mines, including petroleum wells, gold and silver bonanzas, and stone and other quarries are worth but \$780,000,000. To the \$10,000,000,000 invested in farming lands, New Jersey contributes the most valuable land; for, while the average acre of the United States is worth but \$19.02, the New Jersey acre is worth \$65.15.

**Brood Mares.**

There are several facts taught by the experiments of breeders who have made the raising of blooded colts a specialty, among them that a pacing mare always throws a trotting colt, whether bred to a thoroughbred or a trotting stallion, and, that mares that are kept on the turf for long periods, though excellent as performers, do not fulfill the expectations as brood mares. Aged mares sometimes produce their best colts when over twenty years old, and stallions that were failures in the East have proved very valuable when transferred to blue grass pastures. It will do no damage to work mares in foal, provided the work is not too laborious. In fact, light exercise daily, is the best thing for them, and the food should always contain a large proportion of ground oats. No corn is necessary, as a liberal allowance of clean timothy hay with ground oats and fine bran, will keep the mare in first-class condition, as well as enable her to bear her colt without danger of milk fever.—*Farm and Garden.*

**OATS AS A STIMULANT.**—Some time ago there was rather an extreme advocacy of oats for horses, because chemists had discovered avenine in the oat, which was a strong nerve stimulant, and to this they attributed its good effect on horses. Farmers had long before discovered the same thing, only they had not given it a name. It is suggested now that this avenine in the oat is equally stimulating to milk secretion in cows. Well, we know that oats are good feed anyway. They are especially rich in muscle and flesh forming material, and are, therefore, undoubtedly good for favoring milk production.

Prof. Sheldon, the English authority on dairy matters, says: "As usual, we follow the lead of our American rivals in these things. Cheese factories and creameries we have copied from you, but we have not run them on anything approaching the thoroughness of America. In the art of breeding cattle for beef we may regard ourselves as quite ahead of you, but you are equally in advance of us in breeding for milk. You come to us for cattle, and then you define and develop their milking properties to a degree which bewilders us not a little. Few men in these islands have taken notice of the milk yielding capacities of their cows."

**MERCEDES,** the celebrated Holstein cow, owned by T. B. Wales, secretary of the National Holstein Breeders' Association, died lately at Iowa city from milk fever. The cow and her calf, which also died, were valued at \$10,000.

**THE TEATS OF COWS.**—In a cow which to ten or more months in a year is to be milked twice a day, the teats are of great importance. If too small, or if from any cause the cow "milks hard," it will be very difficult to get the work done faithfully, especially if it is left to hired help. Generally the cow that has very small teats will not be thoroughly stripped, and will therefore dry several weeks before she should, making an unnecessary expense in feeding without profit.

**Agriculture in Maryland.**

In the yearly report of crops issued by the commissioner of agriculture, Maryland ranks twenty-fourth in the production of corn, and in acreage twenty-seventh. The yield of corn in the State was 16,251,200 bushels; acreage, 691,542; 23.5 bushels per acre.—Wheat, 7,577,000 bushels; 626,-000 acreage, and 12.1 bushels per acre; rank production, eighteen; acreage, twenty-one. Oats, 2,023,800 bushels; acreage, 100,323; bushels per acre, 20.2; rank production, twenty-nine; acreage, twenty-five. The total grain products throughout the country for the year were as follows: Corn, 1,511,066,836 bushels. Wheat, 420,154,500 bushels. Oats, 571,-233,400. In this report the commissioner of agriculture says that the past year had not been favorable to grain crops. The production of oats was increased. The wheat yield was reduced below an average by the effects of unpropitious weather. The yield of corn too, was reduced somewhat by the unexpected droughts. On the whole, however, the commissioner is gratified, and declares the year's harvest a good one. Maryland has, it is shown by the report, 90,927 persons engaged in agriculture, being 28 per cent. of the population of the State. The value of agricultural products is \$28,839,281, the average income of the farmers of the State being \$317 for the year, while the average for the farmers of the country generally is about \$320.

# MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor.

COL. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

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**☒ Subscribe at once to the Maryland Farmer and get the cream of agricultural knowledge.**

## To Our Patrons.

As we have entered upon our 21st year, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884, and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any are due us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER will use his or her influence to obtain for this year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays in advance a nice premium of one of either of the following books:

*Kendals Treatise on the Horse.*

*Scribner's Lumber Book.*

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*Horses, Their Feed and Their Feet. (new).*

And to such as will add 50 cents extra to the amount due, we we will send a dollar book

*"Palliser's Model Homes."*

Such premiums will reduce the price of the "MARYLAND FARMER" to almost nothing.

For our lady subscribers we have, if desired, that admirable treatise:

*"Every Woman Her Own Flower Gardener."*

**New First-Class Sewing Machines at Half Price.**

PAYABLE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE  
"MARYLAND FARMER."

**CLUBBING.**—For the purpose of aiding our subscribers to an economical benefit of other Journals in our line, we have consented to club with the following for 1884:

The Breeders Weekly Gazette, Chicago, Ill., price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

American Angler, price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

Live Stock Monthly, Portland, Me., price \$1.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$1.50.

Poultry Yard, Hartford, Conn., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

All payable in advance.

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#### An Appeal to our Subscribers.

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*If each one of our subscribers would take the trouble to visit a few of his neighbors, and set forth the advantages of the Maryland Farmer, at its very low rate—\$1.00 per year, postage paid, and a premium book, worth by retail 50 cents, he would be advancing the cause of Agriculture, and helping himself by the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens. Every one who will do this and send us the name and address of one or more subscribers, with 75 cents for each name, may be sure that the paper and premium will be sent as directed, thus retaining for his trouble 25 cents for each new subscriber obtained. We make this liberal offer in the full expectation that our list of subscribers will be increased to 10,000 during this year. Our Monthly contains never less than 32, and often more octavo pages of solid reading matter, both useful and entertaining, chiefly made up of original matter from the best agricultural writers of the day, not men merely of scientific knowledge, but practical men, who know of what they talk.*

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#### The Art and Science of Veterinary Medicine in Europe and America.

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##### ITS BEARINGS ON THE COMFORT OF THE PEOPLE, AND HUMANITY TO ANIMALS.

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A lecture on the above, all important subjects, was delivered by Dr. Robert Ward, our State veterinarian, and fellow Royal College of England, to a select and appreciative audience in the Concert Hall of the Academy of Music, Baltimore, on Monday evening the 10th ultimo.

The lecturer opened with a review of the position the veterinary art held in the classic ages, the empires of Greece and Rome fostering the science, men of learning did not consider it beneath their notice as their writings prove. In the dark ages it was abandoned to the most ignorant and illiterate, falling principally into the hands of the furriers or horse shoers. words derived from ferri-iron, signifying a worker of iron, and the art was called furriery, as it was practiced by them.

After human medicine had emerged from barbarism, the light shown on human medicine caused some of the leading surgeons to study animal medicine, and, thus the art revived. The high position the professors of veterinary medicine had obtained in Europe was demonstrative of the esteem in which the veterinary practitioners were held. Although England was the last to foster the profession, it had now become fully aware of its worth and its importance was realised, as was proved by the Queen conferring the order of the C. B. on its members, and the universities that of L. L. D., and the members were elected to the highest offices. In Germany and France the lecturer said the position the profession held, was equal to that of human medicine. He then dwelt on the importance of a thorough training of students in the United States, and advocated the establishment of veterinary schools in every State, and that he should be proud to be the means of

founding one in Maryland, which State he said possessed the finest herds in the world, and its horses were not inferior ones. The governments should exercise themselves for this object, indeed, something must be done, for with two billions two hundred and ninety millions of dollars worth of animals sure such value cannot be left to chance and decay. One hundred and ninety millions of animals the National Reports show in January 1883, and this leaves two hundred thousand animals to each veterinary

The lecturer urged most earnestly the cause of humanity to animals, and said many animals labored on the streets of Baltimore in an unfit state.

He said his desire was to leave the veterinary profession in Maryland in a better position than he found it, rather than to gain popularity and practice, and could his humble efforts attain that end, and make the name of a veterinary surgeon respected and honored, rather than an opprobrious epithet, as it was now, he should feel that a professional career began in 1854 had terminated most happily, to others benefit than his own.

The lecture was most interesting, and those who were absent missed a very instructive discourse.

Dr. Ward opens his private class at once and those gentlemen who desire to embrace the opportunity, to acquire much valuable instruction and information, should enter their names at once, or they will miss the first part of the first course, and Dr. Ward says these two courses will be complete, and after them he shall not open another private course.

We cannot close our remarks without thanking him for his courtesy in inviting us to his very interesting lecture, which we listened to with great satisfaction.

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DEVIL AMONG RATS, attracts rats; Devil among Rats, kill Mice and Roaches; Devil among Rats is easily prepared for use. Devil among rats will cost you 10 cents.

### Traction Engines for Farm Uses.

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Mr. Frank Brown, we learn, has obtained one of these engines of the Geiser make, for general use on his Springfield farm, Carroll county, Md. This is one of the best farms in the State, and Mr. Brown, one of the most progressive farmers and is the first to introduce this invention into his county for practical purposes. This means of substituting steam for horse power we are glad to see has been made a practical experiment by one who will give it a fair trial. The farmers of Carroll and Howard counties who take an interest in such progressive movements, met together to witness the first working of this new power and were highly pleased at its performance. The machine Mr. B. has bought is one of 15 horse-power. If these machines are what is claimed for them and what we hope they will prove, they will be of incalculable value to the farmer. What horse-mowers and hand-mowers have done in labor and cost to the farmer compared with the olden scythe and sickle, these traction engines may do as against the costly and always uncertain horse-power.

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FARMERS' CLUB ORGANIZED.—The Fallston Farmers' Club, Harford county, was organized at that place, on Thursday evening of last week, and elected the following officers: President, Wm. T. Watson; Secretary, Caleb J. Moore; Treasurer, H. C. Preston; Corresponding Secretary, J. W. Moore. This is the outgrowth, for convenience of its members of the famous Deer Creek Club of that county. We would like to see many of the same sort established in every county. Men meet and exchange views, state results of experiments, read, reflect and discuss, and set forth often facts that are of immense benefit, not only to the individual members, but to the entire surrounding community.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Fish for Farmers.

Having caught the "carp fever" several years ago, I constructed a pond according to the approved methods, and will give your readers the result of my experience thus far, I obtained last winter of Mr. R. Holliday of Centreville, Md., four scale carp from 12 to 14 inches in length; those I turned in and saw no more of them until September of last year, when upon drawing off the water to scoop out the pond in certain parts, in order to give greater depth, I noticed a remarkable increase in size during the few months since they were put in. The largest measured about two feet, and the smallest 20 inches in length, and were beautiful specimens. The water and mud at bottom of the pond was alive with the small fry, from 3 to 5 inches in length. Some "Leather carp" obtained from Washington in February of the same year, had grown from 3 and 4 inches in length, to over a foot in the same time. I am satisfied from what I have seen of them that some of the wonderful stories told of their rapid growth and increase are not overdrawn. The only thing remaining to be tested, and the most important of all, is their value as a table fish. It has never been claimed that they are a first-class fish for eating, but nearly all who have tasted of them, agree as to their excellence, while some condemn them as soft and tasteless. I have never as yet had an opportunity of judging of this latter quality, but have had others who have, to give me their testimony as to their excellence; stating at the same time that they required to be prepared and cooked properly in order to make them so. The Germans are masters of this art, and can usually give the proper method of preparing them for the table. A company of a dozen or more persons in New Jersey dining upon carp lately, voted them "excellent," comparing them to shad in flavor and texture. Upon the back of this comes the declaration from the *Am. Agriculturist* of their inferiority as a good fish, claiming that they are no more entitled to be called a "game" fish than the hog is to be called a "game animal." This is conceding something however, as the claim has never been made other than that the carp was valuable as a food fish, which could be grown as cheaply and profitably as poultry

or bacon. The simple fact of their adapting themselves to almost any kind of a pond, or stream gives them their greatest value, as the game fish will not flourish, except under the most favorable circumstances. A pond best suited for carp, is one having a muddy bottom, as they are "rooters" and burrow in the mud during winter, plenty of vegetation in the pond is necessary, as they are great foragers after vegetable matter, which admits readily of their being fed on such things as lettuce and cabbage leaves, table scraps, &c. It is said that the purity of the water and abundance of good food has much to do with their flavor.

In constructing a carp pond, it is necessary to have one portion run out shallow, in order to give a good spawning bed for the young fish. Their growth is more rapid in a warm than a cold climate. I believe the time is not far distant when the carp pond will be deemed as necessary an adjunct to the farm, as the pig-sty or poultry-house.

Yours, ERATA.

[The above article from a responsible subscriber in Anne Arundel county, Md., is just what we want, excepting that it does not enter fully into minute details for the benefit of his less informed readers. Let us know how his pond is made, its situation, cost, &c., and how he lets off the water at will, to clean it or deepen it,—how he in doing so keeps back the fishes, large and small, and how he feeds, if at all, the finny tribe? Such information from him or other carp-growers of our State, would be very acceptable to thousands of our people whose utter ignorance on the subject of preparing ponds and raising carp alone, prevent them from entering into this great enterprise fraught with both pleasure, comfort and profit in rural life.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

THE MARYLAND LAW RECORD, began its twelfth volume last week, enlarged to eight pages. It now promises to give a large quantity and a greater variety of reading matter than formerly. Mr. T. L. Hanna is the editor. This is a very useful journal to every intelligent farmer, who desires to know what the highest court of the State says about individual rights.

## THE DAIRY.

**ENSILAGE FOR THE DAIRY:**—On six acres we raised enough ensilage corn to feed forty cows once a day for seven months, three pounds of grain being given to each cow. Our ensilage is just what we expected; it takes the place of the root crop, saves the feeding of hay once a day, and with less grain we get better results in milk, butter and flesh. Frostbitten corn comes out of the silo fresh and green. I think it very fortunate that we had our silos built, and giving first-rate satisfaction, before the squelcher on ensilage made his report, for very likely there will not be any more silos built after this.—*Farm and Home.*

**BLOODY MILK.**—Young cows in very high condition, are often liable to affections of the udder. Keep the animal indoors; give plenty of bedding to prevent bruising of the bag; preferably keep her in a box stall. If the bag is tender, bathe it several times daily, with a mixture of equal parts of tinctures of arnica and soft water. Draw the quarters clean of milk thrice daily, without much pulling of the teats. If pain is occasioned by milking, it is better to draw the milk by means of a milk tube, carefully inserted. Give sloppy or steamed food, besides sliced apples or roots, and good, aromatic upland hay. But bloody milk is due to a variety of causes, and to treat it most successfully it would be necessary to know the cause.—*Breeder's Gazette.*

**ENSILAGE FOR Cows.**—Brown Brothers of Norfolk county, Mass., furnish the H. E. Homestead this strong testimony in favor of feeding ensilage to cows: "We fed ensilage to 20 cows from October 15, 1882, to April 22, 1883. Then hay was bought and fed until rye was large enough to cut. This was followed by oats; then sweet corn and Hungarian was fed. The silo was filled with corn and opened October 1, 1883, and the ensilage rations again commenced. The cows have done splendidly. They are plump and healthy and can be got ready for the butcher at short notice. Dry cows and a bull have been kept in better condition and at less cost on ensilage than on the best English hay. Our crop of ensilage corn was poor last year, because we didn't plant it early

enough and because the season was dry. We have proved to our own and our neighbors' satisfaction that 60 lbs. of ensilage is as good as 20 lbs. of the best hay. The work of siloing corn is no harder than haying and less expensive. Ensilage will be fed as long as the world stands; the more farmers investigate it, the more ensilage will be fed."

### A Connecticut Cow.

A cow raised by Dr. M. C. Hazen, of Haddam, and now owned by C. C. Crocker of Richmond, Ind., has become famous in the agricultural world. The cow is now known as Hazen's Bess, and is seven years and six months old. During a week beginning November 5, which was eighteen days after her calving, this cow was tested by the Indiana and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Association with the following result: Yield of milk by weight, 314 pounds, 13½ ounces; yield of butter, 24 pounds, 11 ounces. She was milked three times, daily, and fed at each milking as follows: Six and one half pounds of corn-meal, and four pounds of bran each day, seven ears of corn on three days, five pounds cooked potatoes on two days; eight pounds beets one day, eight pounds of turnips one day, and short blue-grass for pasture. This means an average of twenty-five quarts of milk and three and a half pounds of butter per day.—*Harford Times.*

**MR. SHOEMAKER'S JERSEY COW.**—The statement made in the *Philadelphia Ledger* of recent date, that the Jersey cow Princess 11, owned by Mr. S. M. Shoemaker, of Baltimore, produced 27 pounds and ten ounces of butter in one week, having been questioned, Mr. Shoemaker writes as follows: "I have to say the official test of 'Princess 11,' was made by Mr. J. V. N. Willis, of the American Jersey Cattle Club, and I have the sworn certificates of the same. The correct figures of the test for the seven days are 27 pounds, 10 ounces of butter. This test puts 'Princess 11.' ahead of any cow that is known."

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y.

HANDLING YOUNG HEIFERS.—It is a serious mistake to neglect handling young heifers until after they have dropped their first calf. At this time their bags are apt to be swollen and tender, and the task of accustoming them to be milked is more difficult. For some time before calving heifers will take kindly to having their udders handled. The operation tends to enlarge the bag and the teats, and with good milking stock may make it necessary to draw milk once or twice a day, for a week or more, before the calf is dropped. Do not begrudge the extra trouble that this makes. It is a sign that the heifer will prove to be a deep milker.—*Exchange.*

## POULTRY HOUSE.

For the Maryland Farmer.

SHANENDOAH CO. VA., March 13.

To those interested in rearing poultry it would be well to remember that they cannot over estimate the benefits resulting from cleanliness. Consequently as the season advances, care should be taken to get rid of the vermin, which have lain dormant during the cold weather, by using kerosene freely on the perches and in the nests. If the latter are portable boxes as mine are, the best plan and the only sure one, is to move them away from every part of the building, on some damp day, when the weather is calm, pour kerosene on the remains of old straw, burning them out entirely. If these boxes have been previously whitewashed as they should be, the lime will prevent them taking fire readily. Another coat of lime should be applied, the bottom of each box covered with wood-ashes and soft, clean straw for a nest. The old adage "an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure" applies with some force in this precaution. Boxes of this kind will last with care twelve or fifteen years. While the ground is covered with snow or is frozen, I place a box of mixed earth and ashes under the shed, in rear of the henery. I noticed it was not used as freely as I wished, and as soon as the fowls could range as far as the wood-shed, they used the chip-dirt more freely, there being probably something in the soil more agreeable to their nature. I find them using the chip-dirt during the entire summer, when they could dust elsewhere, hence conclude it supplies a need of their nature not found

in other soils. Owing to the severity of the winter, with little or no abatement up to the present time, my boxes have not been placed in the order I wish, and as some of the hens are broody, I have allowed them to make nests outside whenever convenient. Some fowls prefer a nice, quiet spot all to themselves, while others of the encroaching kind will appropriate the nest already feathered by another. Almost all fowls, however, with the instinct of self-preservation show a disposition to creep into some out-of-the-way place, and deposit their eggs for safe keeping. Any out-building which serves as a protection from the weather, with a little attention can be used successfully. But if you want an interesting study in fowl nature, you can have it in a few weeks by watching how cautiously and stealthily the young turkey makes her nest. You will learn a lesson of patience by watching one-half a day, and then find there were *two* playing at that game. And if you are called away by some house-hold duty, she will escape that day, and for many succeeding ones. She does not know that in secreting her nest from the eye of man, the voracious crow often finds a rich repast.

In rearing poultry one must not forget the risks, the present season so far, has not been favorable for incubating. A half dozen only have been started, several will be due in a few days. I never count them before-hand. Eggs are bringing fifteen cents a dozen, they brought thirty cents at one time, and ranged at twenty-five the greater part of the winter. I would be willing to take twenty cents as the average during the entire year, and in consideration of the time labor and amount of feed required, it would be only a fair profit. I might in this connection say something about high-bred poultry for profit, but will defer until a future number. If one is able to establish one fact in each article, there will be something gained in this industrial branch of trade. I am satisfied we have not yet reached the millenium in rearing poultry, when a little child shall lead them through all the difficulties and dangers incident to a successful business.

M. A. G.

♦♦♦ Thirty thousand dozen eggs were recently received by a single steamer in New York. They came from Germany, and many of them were limed by a superior German process.

**Milk for Fowls.**

"Fanny Field" says in the "Ohio Farmer :" "Speaking of meat for fowls, reminds me of a man who had a theory that fowls could be made to lay in cold weather without meat. His flock of 150 laying-hens has not had an ounce of meat since bugs went into winter quarters, but all the same it has a record of an average of fifty-four eggs per day, for the last two months. The substitute for the meat was milk, and a daily ration of sun-flower seed.

But few poultry-raisers understand the value of milk for chickens, and fowls of all kinds. One of the secrets of our remarkable success with hens in cold weather may be found in the fact that they have plenty of warm milk to drink. We are also confident that our success in raising extra spring chickens, is largely due to the fact that they have an unlimited supply of milk."

**THE WONDERS OF INCUBATION.**—The hen has scarcely set on her eggs twelve hours before some lineaments of the head and body of the chicken appear, the heart may be seen to beat on the second day; it has at that time somewhat the form of a horse shoe, but no blood yet appears. At the end of two days, two blood vessels are to be distinguished, the pulsations of which are visible, one of these is the left ventricle, and the other the root of the great artery.

—Ex.

**Coal-Ashes for the Dust-Box.**

Though road-dust, composed largely, as it is, of comminuted granite, is perhaps the most effectual destroyer of vermin that can be placed in the fowl's dusting-box, it sometimes happens that undue neglect on your part in securing it early, or the unexpected and peremptory setting in of winter, prevent your having any on hand, and then the next best thing must be procured as a substitute. Some recommend wood-ashes, and perhaps if it could always be kept free from moisture, it might serve the purpose; but when it becomes damp, a caustic lye is formed, injurious to the eyes, mouth and feet of the fowls, and it is therefore unfit for use, though possibly a very small portion mixed with sand, which may be attainable even in winter, would not be objectionable.

Coal-ashes are really the best substitute,

as they are not only free from caustic qualities, but contain burnt slate, and other kinds of pure earthy matter, which the fowls like to scratch for and devour.

Even if your dust-bin is properly filled with proper earth, coal-ashes, when attainable, are an addition to the general arrangements of your fowls' quarters, which should not be neglected. Taken from the stove, they are necessarily dry—a very desirable point in winter—and in case of accidental lack of supply for egg shells, various bits of silica, and other inorganic matter can be gathered from them to furnish the needed elements, and they are thus of value in more than one direction.—*American Poultry Yard.*

**POULTRY KEEPING FOR WOMEN.**—While most farmers' wives find enough to do to give them all necessary physical exercise, there are many women and girls in mechanics' houses as well as in farmers' that would give pleasure, profit and health in taking care of a flock of fowls. It would afford out-door exercise and relieve the strain of household cares, instructing the mind in things outside of self, and add many days to the life of many a one. The instruction and training they get by studying the habits and needs of fowls and caring for their wants is excellent—much more valuable probably than they would obtain at they sewing circle or from attending a female suffrage meeting.

**THE GOLD MEDAL TO BULL "ENOCH."**—This beautiful tribute to merit was executed by Welsh & Bro.' jewellers of Baltimore city, and inscribed on one side with a neatly drawn bull's head, and on the reverse is "Md. Agricultural and Mechanical Association. B. S. Woolston's Jersey Bull "Enoch," for Best bull of any kind exhibited at fall Exhibition, 1883."

Mr. W. has promised us an electrotype, and full description of this worthy and beautiful animal to grace our columns at an early day.

It would be a highly appreciated favor if you would induce your friends to subscribe for the MD. FAR.

## HORTICULTURAL.

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For the Maryland Farmer.

### Small Fruit Culture.

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Every farm, whether large or small, should have a fruit plantation, at least enough for all home needs and requirements, as there is nothing which so materially decreases the doctor bills as an abundance of fruit, both for summer and winter use. It is a fact, however, that but few farmers, and especially the large farms, have any fruit on them at all, and those few which have are generally so neglected, in the press and hurry of the regular farm work, as to be of little profit or good. The large farms are generally without the small fruits, but why this should be we cannot imagine, for the cost of maintaining a small plantation is not much of an item where there are men and horses always on hand, and the first cost is by no means considerable. There is no reasonable excuse for not having plenty of small fruits for family use, and we advise the farmers' wives to insist on having just such a plantation and having it well cared for. If they take the matter in hand, it will be attended to, no doubt, if persistence can accomplish it.

In regard to the kinds and varieties most desirable for family use, we shall only name those which are standard, well tried and desirable. A few apples can be planted, tho' there are not many kinds which will do well at the far South, and it is well for those who wish to plant apples to consult their neighbors as to the variety best suited to that particular section. As to pears we would recommend, first and foremost, the well known Bartlett, as a standard, while the Duchesse, as a dwarf, is equally as good and desirable. The Flemish Beauty, Seckle, Lodge, B. DeAnjou and Belle Lucrative are all good sorts, while, also, is the Onondaga, a very handsome, fine pear. In peaches, there is a long list to select from, tho' we have found the Early York, Moore's Favorite, White Heath, Smocks, Oldmixon, &c., very good sorts. In grapes the famous Concord heads the list, for productiveness and hardiness, while the Delaware, Catawba, &c., are desirable as table sorts. In strawberries, the heaviest cropper is, undoubtedly, the Wilson Albany Seedling, in its purity, though

it is not as good a table sort as some others being rather too sour to please most palates. It does well on a variety of soils. The old New Jersey Scarlet is a fine table berry, as is the Kentucky, Charles Downing, Lady Finger and Agriculturist. In Raspberries, we would recommend the Bristol, Brandywine and Philadelphia, while in the way of Blackberries we can name Wilson, which we like as well as any other. We could name many other varieties of the different kinds of fruits, but we have named enough to supply the real wants and needs of any family. E. JR.

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### Rhododendrons.

The past season in this vicinity was very favorable to rhododendrons, frequent showers, such as we had, being just what suited them. These evergreens are not all difficult to grow, as some persons suppose them to be. There are, of course, some soils that are more favorable to them than others, the best being those of a loamy nature with a good admixture of sand and very small stones. The roots of these plants are exceedingly fine, and where the soil suits them they soon increase to a great number, forming a large matted mass, which enables transplanting to be done with perfect safety, when desired. Road-side sweepings, make a soil in which they thrive. The most unsuitable of all soils is that of a clayey nature. The cracking in summer and the retention of water in winter, which such soil has to undergo, are unsuited to this plant. Coolness of the root in summer it must have, and when the soil is not naturally of a cool character it may be made so by digging it out a few feet deep, and filling it with stones, sticks and other rubbish, with good soil two feet deep on top. In winter time a covering of leaves, evergreen boughs, or brush of some kind is a great help to the plants. Not but what they are hardy, but the leaves are a deeper green in spring when thus covered than when left unprotected.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

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MESSRS. H. STONEBRAKER & SON.—Gents I have used your valuable CHICKEN POWDERS for several years, and find them a most certain remedy for the GAPES, and other diseases in fowls. Enclosed find 60 cents. for which please send me two packages immediately. Respectfully, GEO. W. DRESSLER, Covington, Ky., March 19, 1880.

**White Celery.**

A new and remarkable variety of celery has been obtained by a gardener, by the name of Chemin, at Issy, France. According to the *Revue Horticole*, the particular merit of this variety, is that its heart or centre is naturally white, and consequently no labor is required to blanch it. It is only necessary to raise the plants to their full development, and, they are then ready for market, without earthing up or using any means for blanching. The quality is said to be excellent, and it is thought that Chemin's celery or white celery—by both of which names it is known—will soon supersede the other well-known varieties now cultivated. The color is described as yellowish white. "Not only," says the journal above quoted, "is this celery very handsome in appearance, but it is also very good, very full, very tender, very savory, and very agreeable to eat. It is, then, a veritable resolution, at the same time a peaceful one, which has produced Chemin's celery. Let us add," it continues, "that it is vigorous and relatively early. As to its culture, it is absolutely the same, less the blanching, as that applied to all other varieties of celery." The seed of this variety will be offered next season in this country under the name of White Plume.—*Vick's Magazine.*

**FLOWER BEDS.**—These should not be so large as to give trouble in weeding. If more than five or six feet wide, the middle cannot be easily reached with a hoe, and the interior flowers do not show to advantage. If on a sodded lawn, care must be taken not to make flower beds too narrow, however. If they run into points the grass roots from the surrounding grass will give constant trouble. All things considered, it is the better plan to have beds for flowers or plants nearly on a level with the lawn, so that no edging will be required. This plan is more artistic and handsome, and such beds are much less liable to be dried out during drouths or to have the soil washed away from roots of plants by heavy rains.—*Ex.*

**NOTICE.**—Our purchasing agency will furnish high-bred, fashionable and herd-book stock, poultry, &c., and all articles wanted upon the farm, in large and small quantities at the lowest cash prices. See ad. on page 48.

**ONIONS.**

The onion trials of the last season at the New York experiment station were with thirty-four named varieties, which were planted in rows ten feet long and eleven and one-half inches apart, the seeds being covered one-half inch deep. The rows of each variety were planted in order to note the difference upon yield of closeness in planting. In the first row the plants were thinned to three inches apart; in the second to two inches, and in the third to one inch apart. The earliest variety to mature its bulb was the Extra Early Red, in 116 days from planting; the latest, ten varieties, in 163 days. In nearly every case the yield was smallest in the first row, where the spaces were three inches, and largest in the third row, where the spaces were one inch, but in no case was the increased yield of the second and third rows in proportion to the increased number of plants. As a rule, the largest bulbs were in the first row. There seems to be some foundation for the opinion held by some onion growers that the bulbs develop better, offering fewer scallions where they are so close in the row as to crowd each other. The following experiment with onions is quite suggestive: The soil was thoroughly pulverized over a small plat of ground, and on an adjoining plat of equal size the ground was packed as hard as possible by repeatedly pounding it with a heavy maul. The surface of both plats was then covered with finely pulverized soil to the depth of half an inch, and on June 3, three rows on each plat were planted with seed of the large red Wethersfield onion. Late planting was disadvantageous to the yield, but the three rows on the compact soil yielded nine pounds seven ounces of merchantable bulbs, while the three rows on the pulverized soil yielded but three pounds three ounces. The percentage of vegetation in the two plats was not noticeably different, although the vegetation was prompter on the compact soil.

**THE MONARCH HORSE HOE AND CULTIVATOR,** combined, is the latest improvement in agricultural implements, designed for hoeing (with horse), Potatoes, Corn, Beets, Cabbage, Turnips, etc. See advertisement of Monarch Mfg. Co., in another column.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### PARSNIPS.

The root crops form an important part of the agricultural products of England, but here they have as yet received but little attention. There are several reasons for this. We have always had an abundance of land and with us labor has been comparatively dear, and both these circumstances favored the cultivation of grain crops, and the neglect of root crops. More than this, grain could be produced with a more extensive use of machinery than root crops, and the high price of labor and a liking for machinery has led the American farmer to use machinery whenever it was possible to do so, and consequently to neglect the root crops. But to a certain extent these conditions have changed, and made the production of root crops advisable. Land has become higher and wages lower, and present methods and implements allow of the large use of machinery in the production of roots.

Perhaps the greatest reason for the comparative neglect of root crops in this country, has been lack of appreciation of their value. Canadian farmers, having as cheap land and as high labor as we, have always produced them extensively, making them a part of their crop-rotation, because in the mother country they had learned their true value. They are, perhaps, the most important crop on the island of Jersey. And we can hardly have better teachers of matters relating to farming and stock-raising than the Jersey farmers. They carry on no manufacture or commerce of any kind; agriculture is their sole occupation, and they have brought it very near perfection. Feeding grain exclusively has indirectly been productive, of much disease in this country, and this is fast teaching our farmers, in the bitter school of experience, the necessity for that wholesome change of food, which the root crops will so eminently furnish.

Of the root crops none are apt to prove so desirable to the Southern farmers as the parsnip. They are highly nutritious, even more so than carrots, and are very palatable and wholesome to stock. Their great value to dairy stock is well known. No

other food makes a greater increase in the flow of milk, or adds a better flavor and excellence. But the value of parsnips as a food, is not confined to dairy cattle by any means. All classes of stock eat them greedily, and thrive extremely well upon them.

In the North, parsnips will never be so popular as in the South, because in the former section they must be harvested, and this work must be done in the very busy season of spring. In the South they must be harvested for cattle and horses, but this labor can be greatly lessened. There, the seed may be planted as soon as the ground is fit to stir in the spring, and the root will grow all summer and autumn. In the North, the freezing of the ground prevents harvesting in winter; but at the South they may be harvested as wanted, thus saving the labor of a general harvesting, and storing, and the loss from rotting when stored, while for hogs they need not be harvested at all as south of the 36th parallel at the lowest, the swine can root them out during the winter.

The best soil for parsnips is a rich loam. Plow deep and thoroughly; manure the ground. Sow two pounds of seed to the acre, in drills about two feet apart. When the plants are a month old, thin out to a stand of one to every eight inches. Cultivate well and often with a one-horse cultivator. They will yield about four times as great as potatoes. J. M. STAHL.

WE perceive that Mr. F. C. Goldsborough of Talbot county, Md., has lately visited Kentucky and Ohio on a pleasure and business trip. At Cincinnati he attended the annual meeting of the American Oxford-Down Sheep Record Association, and was made the President of the same. This is not only a just compliment to the owner of a superior flock of that breed, bought from the famous importer Cooper of Pa., but is one to our State that every Marylander should justly appreciate, especially as the largest breeders of this superb breed are located in the West. We are pleased to hear that Mr. G. will add to his fine flock another importation during the present year.

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### Chats with the Ladies for April.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

#### SPRING.

"When the buds begin to swell,  
When the streams leap through the dell,  
When the swallows dip and fly,  
Wheeling, circling, through the sky;  
When the violet bids the rose  
Waken from its long repose;  
When the knats in sunshine dance,  
When the long, bright hours advance,  
When the robin by the door  
Sings as ne'er he sang before,  
Then, when heart, and flower, and wing  
Leap and laugh—then comes Spring."

"Hark, that sweet carol! with delight  
We leave the stifling room;  
The blue-bird meets our sight—  
Spring, glorious spring, has come!  
The South wind's balm is in the air.  
The melting snow-wreaths everywhere  
Are leaping up in showers;  
And Nature, in her brightening looks,  
Tells that her flowers, and leaves, and brooks,  
And birds, will soon be ours."

Spring with all its opening promises and substantial evidences of coming beauty is now by turns a weeping and a gladsome maid knocking at our doors and hearts for admittance. Let us embrace the opportunity, and enjoy the songs of the early choristers while we hunt the early flowers that timidly try to play "hide and seek," and let us not delay in preparing a small spot, to sow the seeds of annuals to give us pleasure in the hot days of summer. Do not forget such lovely shrubs and perennials as make all happy when earth pants with thirsty heat. Now is the day and the hour to lay the foundation for intellectual enjoyment, before extreme heat of summer brings lassitude and weariness. Let country girls and matrons look now to the apiary, the henney, dairy and dove cotes, as well as to the vegetable garden, while attending to setting the flower-garden in order. Remember always, to be happy is to unite, "*utile et dulci*"

Believing for some time past, that my readers are growing tired of such compulsory visits, and that the Editor and proprietor of this useful Journal may feel that the flippant CHATS occupy a space each month, which could be filled with more useful, practical matter, I have determined to give up, for a time at least, this to me delightful regalement, and bid you a kindly "good-bye."

If at any time hereafter, there should occur to my view anything of special interest to the welfare of your sex, by permission of the Maryland Farmer, I will call your attention, and express frankly as of yore my sentiments. As your de-

voted Knight, though now three score and ten, I am ever ready to maintain your cause and do battle in your behoof.

In May 1872, I began these Monthly Chats with the lady-readers of the Maryland Farmer, and through all the changes and vicissitudes attending the lights and shadows that always accompany human life, sickness, deaths, marriages, and births—a kind Providence has so ruled, that not a single month has elapsed in the long period of twelve years, when like Paul Pry, "hoping he dont intrude," your old friend P. P. has not been glad to enter your circle and hold his chats, always, to *him*, more than pleasant and fascinating. At times, when lugubrious and sadly prosy with old time advice, he may to many of you seemed tiresome and out of place, yet altogether in these many years he has had the proud satisfaction to know that his CHATS have been on the whole, kindly received and appreciated. This, is an honorable reflection which will be cherished in memory, as long as he enjoys life.

I know not how I can better say *farewell!* and make my final bow, than by using the touching words of England's modern Shakespeare—Byron—in concluding his masterly poem, "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage":

"My task is done—my song hath ceased—my theme  
Has died into an echo; it is fit  
The spell should break of this protracted dream.  
The torch shall be extinguish'd which hath lit  
My midnight lamp—and what is writ, is writ—  
Would it were worthier! but I am not now  
That which I have been—and my visions fit  
Less palpably before me—and the glow  
Which in my spirit dwelt is fluttering, faint and low.

FAREWELL! a word that must be, and hath been—  
A sound that makes us linger,—yet—farewell!  
Ye who have traced the Pilgrim to the scene  
Which is his last, if on your memories dwell  
A thought which once was his, if on ye swell  
A single recollection, not in vain  
He wore his sandal-shoon, and shalllop-shell:  
Farewell! with him alone may rest the pain,  
If such there were—with *you*, the moral of his strain."

#### To our JUVENILE READERS.

We have seriously contemplated giving our young readers occasionally some little task to perform in the way of Charades, Enigmas and the like, in order that they may seek the Maryland Farmer every month, and by this means be induced to read and ponder over its other pages of agricultural wealth, which, in time will be of infinite value to them.

By way of an experiment, we offer to each young person who will return to us before the 25th of April, a correct answer to the following Enigma, a year's subscription of the "Maryland Farmer" at half price, or for 50 cents. If sufficient interest is manifested by our young folks,

we may continue this "Puzzle Column" and offer other inducements for solutions of the same.

#### Cross Word Enigma.

The 1st is in scatter, but not in sow;  
The 2d is in under, but not in low;  
The 3d is in willow, but not in ash;  
The 4th is in glitter, but not in flash;  
The 5th is in river, but not in lake;  
The 6th is in shovel, but not in lake;  
The 7th is in carriage, but not in mule;  
The 8th is in method, but not in rule;  
The 9th is in carrot, but not in beet;  
The 10th is in litter, but not in sweet;  
The whole is much used on a farm.

"ADELAIDE."

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### The Voice of Spring.

"Passing away the seasons proclaim,  
Others are coming from whence we came";  
Change and decay are stamped on each face,  
Records of time no hand can erase.

"Winter is departed; now I return  
Fresh from the grave of his cold, frozen urn;  
Joyous and gay, with music and glee;—  
Youth and old age O come, welcome me!

Stern and forbidding was my grave sire,  
Storms, winds and frost, dealt out in his ire;  
Nature in chains, his pace could not flee;  
From his dominion I come to free.

The bonds I've burst of rivers and streams,  
And on their bosoms the sun-light gleams,  
Sparkling, leaping in freedom again,  
Murmuring, roaring they rush to the main.

Showers are descending—blessings of God!  
Mingled with sunshine, warm the cold sod,  
Flowers are springing new to life;  
Soft gales are blowing with odors rife.

Birds are caroling forth their notes,  
Music, harmonious, flows from their throats;  
Children of sadness, give ear to their lays!  
Learn a sweet lesson of grateful praise.

MARY G. HARRIS.

#### Notes about the South.

Our esteemed friend, J. S. Wilson, Esq., Editor of the Marlboro' Gazette, with his family, visited New Orleans to witness the late Mardi Gras, annually held in that city. While "On the Wing," he wrote several letters to his paper, which we have read with great pleasure, as they were both instructive and newsy. We give the closing paragraphs of his last letter:

"The railroad facilities are good—one recently completed road, the North-eastern

—crosses Lake Pontchartrain on a bridge 28 miles long, the longest in the world.

The evidences of growth and progress are not so noticeable here as in other parts of the South. We saw but little building going on. The great World's Exposition which will be held here this year, will give an ample impetus to all kinds of industries. The city is destined to be one of even greater commercial importance than that which it now enjoys. Ten years ago no ship drawing sixteen feet of water, could be certain of passing out of the mouth of the Mississippi; now the largest ships of the world can pass in safety through the jetties.

We have been greatly pleased with what we have seen of the States through which we passed, and can but believe that already "Southward the Star of Empire takes its way." Georgia especially, appears to have taken the lead.—The cold climate and lagging manufactories of the North, are driving capital to its borders for investment, and with this inevitably comes operatives by the many hundreds to increase her population. The future of Georgia is bright.

In our travels we saw no better farming and s than that which can be found in our own county; the best we saw was around Orange and Culpepper Court House, Virginia.

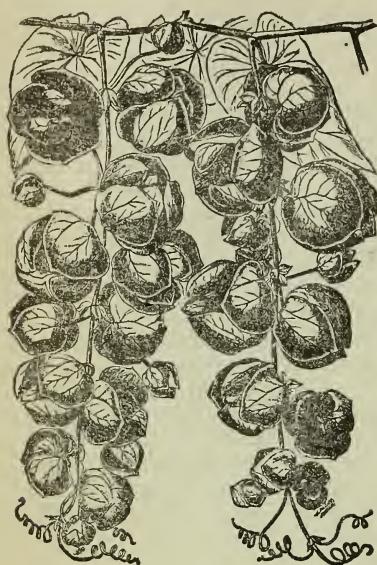
We shall leave here in a few days and before your readers see this hastily written letter, we hope to be safely home, where we can no longer subscribe ourselves as yours,

ON THE WING."

**CABBAGE AND TOMATO PLANTS.**—We have arrangements with good and reliable growers of tomato, cabbage and other plants to furnish us daily through the season. Those wanting to purchase would do well to send their orders one or two days in advance to the office of the Maryland Farmer, 141 West Pratt Street.

WE call attention to the Advertisement in this Number, page 3 of the GUIDE, of the "R. G. Kirkwood Wind Engine," made in this State, which received at the Fair of Frederick, Md., and Richmond, Va. State Fair, the first Premium and Diploma for this Wind Mill.

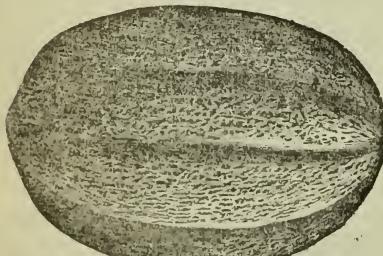
The kindness of Mr. Robert J. Holliday, florist and seedsman, of this city, has enabled us to give illustrations of a rare and lovely climber, from Central Mexico.



*Antigonem Leptophus.*

For the garden in summer or conservatory in winter; foliage light green, delicately veined, producing dark rose colored flowers, in racemes two feet long, like clusters of grapes; plants of quick growth. This plant is only 30 cents each, or \$3.00 per dozen.

Also a cut of "Bay View" canteloupe which is a new promising kind that is large



*Bay View, M. M.*

and prolific and green fleshed melon. It is so far as tried a choice fruit.

### Maryland Agricultural College.

In view of the petitions which have been presented to the Legislature, unfriendly to the Maryland Agricultural College, the following memorial in its behalf which we have just received, should be gratifying to its many friends throughout the State, and we publish it with pleasure. Surely the cordial endorsement of those residing in the immediate neighborhood of the college, embracing some of the most prominent citizens of that section, should more than counter-balance the papers which have been circulated for the purpose of injuring an institution, which all admit, who have taken the trouble to inform themselves, promises to be with reasonable support, a useful and creditable institution to the State.

#### "To the Public."

We, the undersigned, citizens of Prince George's county, Maryland, some of us residing in the immediate neighborhood of the Maryland Agricultural College, consider it a duty which we owe to that institution, and the public, to make the following statement: It is with regret that we have recently observed articles published in some of the newspapers of the State, calculated to injure the Maryland Agricultural College. These articles we regard unjust and undeserved. Without meaning to criticise the past administrations of this institution, it is but just to say that the present management under President Smith, deserves to be commended and sustained. He has exhibited administrative ability, which has produced the most marked improvement in every respect. In our opinion, he needs only reasonable financial support to enable him to make this college what its charter and a reasonable public have a right to demand for it. Very respectfully,

C. C. Hyatt,  
W. O. Eversfield, M. D.  
Duncan G. Campbell,

Eugene S. Calvert, and 21 others."

We are informed that a large majority of the farmers of this State would gladly endorse the above sentiments.

### Catalogues Received.

Ellwanger & Barry's supplementary list of Novelties and Specialties with colored print of the New Gooseberry "Industry." Rochester, N.Y.

Isaac F. Tillinghast, Seeds, La Plume, Lackawanna county, Pa.

Bowman & Breckbill, Forgy, Clark county, O. Fruit Nurseries.

Crawford's Strawberry Catalogue, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Wm. Parry, Parry P. O., N. J., Fruit catalogue of the well established Pomona Nurseries.

Edward B Emory's Catalogue of Trotting Horses, Centerville, Queen Annes county, Md.

F C Heinemann, Erfurt, Germany, Catalogue of Flower and Vegetable Seeds.

Wm C. Wilson, 45 West 14th St., New York, Plants and Seeds.

WE have before us a copy of Green's Hints on Fruit Culture and catalogue of plants, vines and trees. It contains a beautiful colored plate and over thirty illustrations of fruits, etc., including a full-page view of a New York fruit farm of 134 acres, showing how one may be laid out. It describes the valuable new fruits, and tells how to plant and cultivate them. It is sent free on application to Green's Nurseries, box 562, Rochester, N. Y.

### Publications Received.

From Orange Judd Company, **HOUSEHOLD CONVENIENCES**, largely made up of cuts and descriptions of some heretofore appearing in the valuable paper published by that company as the *American Agriculturist*. By this method the public have these *conveniences* put in such order and form as can be easily referred to and taken advantage of as occasions may require. To say this little book is worthy of attention is saying too little. It is a useful compendium of articles wanted in every household, and we commend it to the special attention of all young house-keepers and indeed to all persons who desire enjoyment from trifles that are both economical, labor-saving and furnishing comfort in various ways not easily otherwise attainable. Price \$1.50, for 220 illustrations and 240 pages of reading matter. A cheaper and more useful book cannot be easily obtained by anybody on any subject.

Upon the same order, this firm has issued another volume of 240 pages and 212 illustrations,

entitled "FARM CONVENIENCES." Literally, a hand-book for the farm, of similar character as the household help referred to above. Every farmer, big or little, should have a copy. Price \$1.50. Orange Judd Company, 751 Broadway New York.

Statistical Division of the Department of Agriculture of the U S., has issued a report for March, 1884, entitled "Distribution and Consumption of Corn and Wheat, and the Rates of Transportation of Farm Products, which for perspicacity and usefulness to the daily purposes of the farmers of the Union has never before been equalled. It is a public document worthy the perusal and careful study of every intelligent man in the country. It is a literal account current showing the amount of supply on hand, by which consumer and producer can equally judge of the value of these grains at the present time.

HOW MUCH SEED SHALL I SOW?—That depends on the size and vitality of the seeds, the number of seeds to the bushel, the condition of the land, whether distributed evenly, and the nature of the season which is to follow. No fixed rule will relieve the farmer from thinking for himself and employing all the good judgment at his command. In the opinion of the writer, it would be better, in most cases, if farmers used less seed to the acre and took more pains to get the land in better condition. Suppose we sow twelve quarts of timothy seed and four pounds of red clover to the acre. This will make 18,944,000 seeds of timothy and 6,024,000 seeds of clover, a total of 24,968,000 seeds, or about four seeds to the square inch. Using finer seeds in mixtures, as prescribed by some of the English dealers, they often sow from 50,000,000 to 100,000,000 seeds to the acre, or not far from eight to sixteen seeds to each square inch. In either case, there can be room for only a small proportion of the plants should all the seeds grow and thrive. Much caution must be used in applying the fixed rules laid down in books, or the fixed rules laid down by men who seldom consult the books.—*By Prof. W. J. Beal, Michigan Agl. College.*

**Getting out of the Ruts.**

There is some foundation for the reputation farmers have of running their business in ruts. Routine is a good thing in its place, but divergence has its advantages. All improvements are made by those who get out of the beaten track, and try new crops, new fertilizers, new stock and tools, and new methods. Every farmer should study the new things set forth in the agricultural papers, and at the farmers' clubs, and other agricultural gatherings. He will find chaff among the wheat no doubt, but the sifting process cultivates a habit of thinking, and adds to his knowledge every year. It is important to have half an acre or more devoted to experiments in fertilizers, in new vegetables and fruits, in draining and subsoiling, in shallow and deep manuring. A hint in your paper is one thing; a test in the soil, under your own supervision, is quite another. It is barren upon the printed page; but when committed to the soil, it may fructify and bear fruit, some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundred fold.—*American Agriculturist for April.*

We call attention to Mess. A. Bahmer & Co's Advertisement in this number on page 6 who manufacture a superior washing compound called "Bleachine" used extensively in the laundries; we also recommend it to our farmers and their wives for cleaning milk cans, kitchen ware, &c.

The United States Veterinary Surgeon at Fort Leavenworth, Dr. Holcomb, detailed to investigate the cattle disease in Woodson county, reports the foot and mouth disease in a severe form, and not the dreaded anthrax or black leg, as at first supposed, which is much more fatal, killing 80 per cent. He did not expect to find the foot and mouth disease, but was prepared to find anthrax.

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